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NORTHWESTERN ARCTIC

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FEDERAL SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

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March 2, 1999

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Old City Office

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Kiana, Alaska

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11 MEMBERS PRESENT:

12

13 Willie Goodwin, Chairman

14 Bert Griest, Vice Chair

15 Raymond Stoney, Secretary

16 Wilfred R. Ashby

17 Percy C. Ballot, Sr.

18 Rosaline Ward

19

20

21 Barbara Armstrong, Coordinator

P R O C E E D I N G S

(On record 10:00 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I'm going to call this meeting to order for Northwest Arctic Subsistence Regional Advisory Council. We're at the Kiana Old City Office in Kiana, Alaska. Today is March 2, time 10:00 a.m.

Would you call roll Barb.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Bert Griest. He's coming in late. Raymond Stoney.

MR. STONEY: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Wilfred Ashby.

MR. ASHBY: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Percy Ballot.

MR. BALLOT: Here at last.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Rosie Ward.

MS. WARD: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Willie Goodwin.

CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Here.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You have a quorum.

CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I want to welcome everybody. We have some residents here from Kiana, some in the back and hopefully some more will show up. Why don't we just go around the table and introduce yourself starting back there.

MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Barbara Armstrong, Coordinator for Northwest Arctic.

MS. DEWHURST: Donna Dewhurst, I'm the wildlife biologist on the Fish and Wildlife Service Subsistence Staff.

COURT REPORTER: Tina, I'm the Court Reporter.

MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Helen Armstrong, I'm the cultural anthropologist that serves this Council from Fish and Wildlife.

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1 MR. STONEY: Raymond Stoney, Kiana.

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3 MS. WARD: Rosie Ward, Kobuk.

4

5 MR. BALLOT: Percy Ballot, Buckland.

6

7 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Willie Goodwin, Kotzebue.

8

9 MR. ASHBY: Ricky Ashby, Noatak.

10

11 MS. MEYERS: Randy Meyers, BLM, Kotzebue.

12

13 MR. ADKISSON: Ken Adkisson, National Park
14 Service, Western Arctic National Park Lands.

15

16 MR. KNAUER: Bill Knauer, Fish and Wildlife,
17 Policy and Regulations Specialist.

18

19 MS. GEORGETTE: Susan Georgette, Fish and Game
20 Department.

21

22 MR. AREY: Joe Arey, Noatak.

23

24 MR. SHIEDT: Enoch Shiedt, Coordinator.

25

26 MR. SMITH: Donald Smith. I'm just an innocent
27 bystander.

28

29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: That's good. Item 4 on the
30 agenda is adoption of the agenda. Do we have any new items?
31 Barb, do you have anything else to add? Anyone?

32

33 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

34

35 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Percy.

36

37 MR. BALLOT: I move to approve the agenda.

38

39 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Second.

40

41 MR. ASHBY: I second it.

42

43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any discussion on the
44 motion?

45

46 MR. STONEY: Question.

47

48 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All in favor signify by
49 saying aye.

50

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1 IN UNISON: Aye.

2

3 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All opposed.

4

5 (No opposing responses)

6

7 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Item 5 is review and
8 adoption of minutes of September 24, 1998. A motion's in order
9 to take action on the minutes.

10

11 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman, I move to approve
12 the minutes of September 24th, 1998.

13

14 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Second.

15

16 MS. WARD: Second.

17

18 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Second by Rosie. Any
19 discussions or changes anyone wishes to make on the minutes?

20

21 I assume everybody had a chance to review them.
22 Any more discussion on the motion?

23

24 MR. BALLOT: Question.

25

26 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All in favor signify by
27 saying aye.

28

29 IN UNISON: Aye.

30

31 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All opposed.

32

33 (No opposing responses)

34

35 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: It's unanimous. Item 6,
36 open the floor to public comments on Federal Subsistence
37 Management Program. If you have any comments on the management
38 program, you're certainly welcome to make them and I'll keep
39 them open throughout the whole meeting. Anyone wish to make
40 any comments at this time?

41

42 The only thing that I would want to bring up is -- oh,
43 we're going to do it on Tab U, the Fisheries Update.

44

45 We have some more people coming in?

46

47 MS. DEWHURST: Park Service, and Bert.

48

49 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: And Bert, okay. Sue.

50

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1 MR. KNAUER: No, I'm here in place of Sue.

2

3 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, Bill, so you'll give
4 us a Fisheries Update?

5

6 MR. KNAUER: Yes.

7

8 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Where we're at and what's in
9 front of us.

10

11 MR. KNAUER: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

12

13 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Anybody have any
14 concerns or anything they want to voice with regard to the
15 Federal management?

16

17 MR. ASHBY: Maybe I can say before you got
18 fishing, on impact on that established use where we cannot have
19 the fish on.....

20

21 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah, we did take action on
22 it in our meeting in September to remove that from the
23 regulations. So that's part of the record already. This
24 Council already made a motion to remove that from the
25 regulations.

26

27 So Bill when we get there you'll explain that further?

28

29 MR. KNAUER: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

30

31 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: We can also do any other
32 proposals that anyone wishes to make regarding fisheries when
33 we get to that agenda item.

34

35 Raymond.

36

37 MR. STONEY: Mr. Chairman, as we all know that
38 the State has to issue hunting -- hunting and fishing licenses
39 all these years, now, if the Federal takeover in the future,
40 who's going to issue the hunting and fishing licenses if the
41 Federal takes over; Federal or State?

42

43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anyone wish to comment on
44 that one?

45

46 MR. KNAUER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. All of the
47 existing permits and licenses and harvest reporting that are
48 currently required under the State regulations will still
49 remain under Federal regulations. At least, in the -- at the
50 start of the program. That could change later but initially it

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1 will still be all the State requirements.

2

3 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So if you're required to
4 have a permit or license for subsistence you would go to them
5 to get them?

6

7 MR. KNAUER: You'd go to the State government.

8

9 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: State government?

10

11 MR. KNAUER: Right.

12

13 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

14

15 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Percy.

16

17 MR. BALLOT: We have three bills that are being
18 proposed at the State reg now and one joint resolution by our
19 -- and does anybody have any feelings or any updates on those
20 resolutions or those bills in the State?

21

22 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I'm not sure. I don't know
23 if we're required to take any position on any of the State
24 proposed regulations, we're only dealing with the Federal
25 management of fish and wildlife, you know.

26

27 MR. BALLOT: My question was, does anybody
28 know, not with dealing with them, but I just wanted an update
29 on what those -- they were.

30

31 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Oh.

32

33 MR. BALLOT: Because I've had people.....

34

35 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: No, I don't know. Does
36 anybody know anything about them? Is this regarding the
37 amendment to the Constitution?

38

39 MR. BALLOT: Uh-huh. If not, that's fine.

40

41 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Rosie.

42

43 MS. WARD: I was going to ask, who is licensure
44 in the villages, do you have that yet, I mean from the State or
45 the Federal, to sell the licenses for hunting during fall
46 and.....

47

48 MR. KNAUER: I don't know that, that's one of
49 the -- that's part of the State program.

50

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Susan, do you got anything.

2

3 MS. GEORGETTE: Well, I know that there were
4 problems in the Upper Kobuk this fall, I think, because there
5 was no one selling licenses and people called me at home one
6 night at 11:00 trying to get licenses. And I think Kathy
7 Sherman set up at least a couple of people.

8

9 MS. WARD: I did have some but I turned it over
10 because I wasn't sure.....

11

12 MS. GEORGETTE: Right. Yeah, it's -- I could
13 get you that information who really is. I think in Shungnak
14 it's Sam Woods, and I think someone else, maybe Lawrence's boys
15 maybe. And I'm not sure about Kobuk. But it's always been
16 kind of -- it changes a lot and it's hard to keep it going and
17 people don't always know who it is. So I'm not sure what we
18 have in Kobuk right now.

19

20 MS. WARD: I used to have it but since
21 everything's changed around so much I couldn't keep up so I
22 didn't get it.

23

24 MS. GEORGETTE: Yeah, I know. Okay.

25

26 MS. WARD: Thank you.

27

28 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Raymond.

29

30 MR. STONEY: Yeah, before you go there, Susan,
31 do you know -- I know for the Kobuk, I've noticed, now, if you
32 wanted a hunting license you got to pay at least \$250 just to
33 get it otherwise they have to go to Kotzebue one day and come
34 back the next day and then purchase the hunting license. By
35 the time you get back home, it's \$250. They need a vendor in
36 the area.

37

38 MS. GEORGETTE: Right. And what we do is like
39 when people have called me, I'll -- you can fax them up or mail
40 them up or people can fax the thing down or even tell me, I
41 just fill it out on the honor system or whatever, you know,
42 send it up to them. But you're right, it's really a problem
43 that the State requires all these things and then it's
44 impossible to get them.

45

46 And when I've been in the villages myself trying to get
47 a dump stamp you can't even get them sometimes, even if you
48 want to. So it is a -- it's something we work on but it isn't
49 a very good system overall, I would agree.

50

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1 MR. STONEY: Thank you, Susan.

2

3 MS. GEORGETTE: Thank you.

4

5 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any other comments.

6

7 MR. ASHBY: Maybe toward the Federal side I
8 would have a question. Do you see the situation that the State
9 is in when the Federal takeover -- how is it going to improve?
10 I mean are you going to put people in every village to take
11 care of licensing?

12

13 MR. KNAUER: There will not -- initially to
14 start there will not be any Federal licenses. If you are
15 required to have a State license or a State permit you will
16 still have to get those through the State system.

17

18 MR. ASHBY: Okay. Because, for instance, we're
19 going to see in the future because on this letter they say
20 they're putting some money into it, it's going to become an
21 obstacle for our people to get the licenses if there's not
22 vendors in each one of our villages. And some of the people
23 that don't have much and are paying big bills need to have a
24 vendor in the village because just to get gas it's -- gas and
25 ammunition is a real heavy price that we have to pay.

26

27 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any other comments or
28 questions. Any other village have any other concerns? Joe, do
29 you have anything from Noatak?

30

31 MR. AREY: Not at the moment but I'll think of
32 something.

33

34 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

35

36 MR. STONEY: Mr. Chairman, will there be
37 someone from Park Service showing up?

38

39 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: The Park Service?

40

41 MR. STONEY: The Park Service.

42

43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

44

45 MR. STONEY: Because I got one question.

46

47 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: There's one here.

48

49 MR. STONEY: Okay.

50

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: We got one here already.

2

3 MR. STONEY: You know recently in the last,
4 especially last summer, there was a lot of questions asked
5 about the Kobuk National Monument, you know, from up here to
6 (indiscernible). I know I was told in the office that nobody
7 except the subsistence hunters could use that area, the non-
8 resident -- that Unit 23 cannot hunt in that area; is that
9 correct, in the Kobuk National Monument?

10

11 MR. ADKISSON: Within the Kobuk National Park,
12 the only people that can hunt in it are Park Service eligible
13 subsistence users, which are defined by resident communities.
14 And I don't have a list of the communities but there's about,
15 I think, seven or nine communities that are listed for that.

16

17 MR. STONEY: Okay.

18

19 MR. ADKISSON: I could get you the list if you
20 want. But it's essentially the Kobuk River communities and
21 Kotzebue.

22

23 MR. STONEY: Yes. No sport hunting whatsoever?

24

25 MR. ADKISSON: There is no sport hunting period
26 or there should not be. If anybody's in there sport hunting,
27 they're in there illegally and we'd like to know about it, yes.

28

29 MR. STONEY: Yeah. Thank you, Ken.

30

31 MR. ADKISSON: It's one difference between
32 Parks and Monuments and National Park Service.

33

34 MR. STONEY: Yes. Does the State under -- the
35 Federal subsistence will be taking over management and what
36 about commercial or sport fishing?

37

38 MR. KNAUER: Commercial and sport and personal
39 use fishing will still be managed under the State program.

40

41 MR. STONEY: I go further on that Kobuk River,
42 how about fishing, commercial fishing in that area?

43

44 MR. ADKISSON: Commercial fishing will still be
45 under State regulation.

46

47 MR. STONEY: Okay. Otherwise it's just the
48 restriction on the hunting only on that Kobuk National
49 Monument?

50

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1 MR. ADKISSON: Oh, on the monument?

2
3 MR. STONEY: Yes.

4
5 MR. ADKISSON: If it's within the monument,
6 however it's being managed now, whether it's being managed by
7 the Park Service or by the State, that's how it will continue
8 to be managed.

9
10 MR. STONEY: My question is, is it legalized to
11 also commercial sport fishing?

12
13 MR. ADKISSON: That's kind of a tough question,
14 Raymond. I'll have to do some checking. My first thought
15 would be no, not within the Park.

16
17 MR. STONEY: Okay.

18
19 MR. ADKISSON: And there's some reasons why
20 that even though it's a navigable river and the State claims
21 some jurisdiction, there's, I think, an overriding Park Service
22 regulation that would allow us to function. So my first guess
23 is, no, commercial fishing within the Park itself would not be
24 permitted.

25
26 MR. KNAUER: But sport fishing is allowed?

27
28 MR. ADKISSON: Yeah. Sport fishing is allowed
29 in the Park.

30
31 MR. STONEY: Sport fishing is allowed, okay.

32
33 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: It's allowed in the
34 Monument, you said?

35
36 MR. ADKISSON: Yes. Yeah, generally most
37 National -- it's a quirk in most National parks provide for
38 sport fishing. The thing about it ultimately, I guess, to
39 remember is that, you know, under the Federal program, when the
40 Federal, you know, assumption of fisheries management occurs is
41 that if either one of those activities were causing an adverse
42 impact on the subsistence uses, you know, action will be taken.

43
44 MR. AREY: Can I ask one question?

45
46 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah, just a minute.

47
48 COURT REPORTER: Wait a minute, let me move
49 this microphone for you, thanks. Okay, go ahead.

50

1 MR. AREY: Yeah, if somebody is working for the
2 Park Service, like in the (indiscernible) River, if they make
3 a proposal, they don't subsistence in that area but they want
4 sport fishing, and they're working for that department, how
5 come that employee is making a proposal to keep the people out
6 of the fish -- to keep subsistence people out of there and let
7 the sport people coming there and do their thing? I mean
8 that's a proposal -- they make a proposal?

9
10 MR. ADKISSON: I think, Joe, are we talking
11 about the same situation that Ricky was describing?

12
13 MR. AREY: (Nods affirmatively)

14
15 MR. ADKISSON: Okay. That isn't something that
16 the Park Service proposed, that was a carryover into the
17 proposed Federal fisheries regulations from the State. And as
18 I think, Willie said, action was taken at the last meeting or
19 whatever to get that removed.

20
21 MR. AREY: Well, how can it come from the State
22 to the Federal -- how.....

23
24 MR. KNAUER: Let me answer that.

25
26 MR. ADKISSON: Go ahead, let Bill.

27
28 MR. KNAUER: To start out we used the existing
29 State subsistence regulations as a starting point just like we
30 did with the hunting regulations. Because to start with, we
31 don't have a program totally in place yet and we don't want to
32 disrupt all of the other users. You know, you folks, many of
33 you are subsistence -- all of you are subsistence users,
34 many.....

35
36 MR. AREY: Well, this is subsistence.

37
38 MR. KNAUER: Many of you are also commercial
39 users. Some of you actually go out and do some sport fishing
40 once in a while, too, with friends and family. So we don't
41 want to disrupt the whole system to start out when we're not
42 quite sure how it's going to work. So we'll start out with the
43 existing regulations and then we will open it up for proposals
44 to change those regulations.

45
46 Now, that Kelly River closure, I would anticipate will
47 probably be one of the first proposals to come out of this
48 Regional Council, to change that regulation. I think I'm
49 pretty.....

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1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: We already.....

2

3 MR. KNAUER:on pretty solid grounds.

4

5 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: We've already moved on that.

6

7 MR. KNAUER: Right. And so we'll just have to
8 put it in when we open the regulations up for proposals.

9

10 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Joe, what we've also done is
11 ask the State of Alaska to submit that in their fishery
12 proposal, to remove that. See it was an existing State
13 regulation, that's what happened.

14

15 MR. AREY: Well, even if they remove it, that
16 person that works for the State they can make another one and
17 do it again, see?

18

19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: It will keep coming before
20 us. I don't know how that one got by us.

21

22 MR. AREY: I mean you work for one outfit and
23 you're employed, you shouldn't be making the rules.

24

25 MR. KNAUER: Under the Federal programs and
26 under the State program, anybody is entitled to make a
27 proposal. That doesn't mean that a proposal, either under the
28 State program or the Federal program will be adopted and past.
29 But it.....

30

31 MR. AREY: Well, that's just like.....

32

33 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Joe, let's give him a chance
34 to finish.

35

36 MR. KNAUER: But it does mean that this
37 Regional Council and the Federal Subsistence Board or on the
38 State side, the local advisory committees and the Board of Fish
39 have a chance to debate it in open public forum. And I would
40 anticipate that that particular proposal, the Board of Fish,
41 when it goes before the Board of Fish, they'll probably -- you
42 know, I can't speak for them but I would guess they'll probably
43 delete it. I would guess, you know, and again I can't speak
44 for the Federal Subsistence Board, but I would guess they'll
45 probably delete it also.

46

47 But it is an opportunity to participate in an open
48 manner, not behind closed doors. So anybody can make a
49 proposal.

50

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Joe, I don't know who
2 submitted the original proposal and put it in the State
3 regulations.

4
5 MR. AREY: How did it get there in the first
6 place?

7
8 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I don't know, that's what
9 I'm saying. But it's there already, okay. It's there already.
10 So what we did when we were reviewing these regulations from
11 the State for Federal management, that was one of the first
12 things we did was make a motion to delete that. And last fall
13 or a month ago or two months ago when we had a meeting here, we
14 did ask the State to make a proposal to delete that from the
15 State regulations also.

16
17 MR. ASHBY: Can I say something?

18
19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Ricky.

20
21 MR. ASHBY: When this happened, I thought it
22 was in 1980, I think it was, but it was on paper already when
23 I found it was there. And we asked to take it out, I think it
24 was in the news here when we had the meeting at that time. But
25 it didn't come off and when I seen it again, so many years
26 later, that's when I reviewed it again. I think some other
27 people also spotted it and wondered how it got there. It was
28 a Park Service worker at the time that was from the Lower 48
29 that put in that thing and then I didn't know it until it got
30 on paper and then it just followed through, just kept on
31 appearing. I seen some changes -- it was three-quarter mile
32 and then when I seen that, I think it was one mile up and down.
33 That's how the progress of that one went.

34
35 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So, Ken, can you do the
36 research on that and see where that.....

37
38 MR. ADKISSON: I sure will.

39
40 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: You guys might be the
41 culprit then.

42
43 MR. ADKISSON: Well, that's news to me and I'll
44 sure look into it.

45
46 MR. AREY: Yeah. Because they can come from
47 the Lower 48, go to work up here in the Park Service and make
48 -- put a proposal in there and go back to their state and
49 forget about it and we're the ones that are hurting.

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Anything else?
2 You're clear where we're at now, Joe, we're making moves to
3 take it away. Can you hear everybody?

4
5 COURT REPORTER: I can hear everybody.

6
7 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Donald, you have a
8 question?

9
10 MR. SMITH, SR.: Let me get one thing straight
11 I remember bringing up when I was in Kotzebue. There's some
12 people always and they don't reside here, they -- sometimes
13 they're working with -- is it legal to take your friend from
14 Red Dog that's not residing here, take him up to shoot caribou?

15
16 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Don't have a license or
17 nothing.

18
19 MR. ADKISSON: No. Basically, no. No, because
20 it would depend on where that person from Red Dog actually
21 lived. To hunt within the Park, you have to be a member and
22 live in one of those resident zone communities. If you don't
23 live in one of the like nine resident zone communities, it's
24 illegal to hunt in the Park, period.

25
26 MR. SMITH, SR.: See, watch people that's
27 breaking the rules and regulations and nobody says, boo about
28 it. And Kiana is pretty near the place where they land the
29 airplanes and take off and caribou -- we just look at them. If
30 you write and give us your name, whatever you plan to stop,
31 we'll try and help you. Because I'm from out in the boonies
32 and there's a lot of times I don't even know where to start.

33
34 MR. ADKISSON: Yeah, I'd like to talk to you
35 later, maybe on a break.

36
37 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Raymond.

38
39 MR. STONEY: Mr. Chairman, Ken, like Don was --
40 study is an important thing, but however, in the Monument, like
41 Kobuk Valley there, now if he wanted to take somebody to his
42 allotment, is that his responsibility just going to his
43 allotment, as an allottee owner?

44
45 MR. ADKISSON: If it's an allotment it's
46 considered private land within the Park and allotments
47 currently fall under State jurisdiction. So if you took
48 someone to his allotment and the person shot a caribou on that
49 allotment then it would fall under State jurisdiction so you
50 would have to have a State hunting license and whatever else

1 requirements the State had. But if you were to shoot it in the
2 Park off of the allotment, then it would be a Federal issue and
3 here it's illegal.

4
5 MR. STONEY: Okay.

6
7 MR. SMITH, SR: If you're going to do that, I
8 think you have to be with the people or could they take my boat
9 and go without me to my allotment?

10
11 MR. ADKISSON: If they -- yeah, then it would
12 be -- if they took your boat and went to your allotment and
13 they had a State hunting license and they met requirements to
14 shoot the caribou and they shot the caribou on your allotment
15 it would still be legal and it would be your concern as a land
16 owner if they were trespassing. But yeah, it would still be
17 legal.

18
19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Who's next?

20
21 MR. SMITH, SR: See, those things we see, like
22 I say, if you put it in writing so we can see it.

23
24 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What we need here, I guess,
25 is more communication or posters showing what's legal and what
26 is illegal in the Park. Susan.

27
28 MS. GEORGETTE: Well, I guess just so I'm
29 clear, the State, I thought, if people are actually hunting in
30 the River, can't people hunt in the River in the Kobuk Valley
31 Park because that's considered State jurisdiction? I mean if
32 you're actually boating up river or you were coming down river
33 and you worked at Red Dog, can you shoot a caribou that's
34 swimming in the river or is that not?

35
36 MR. ADKISSON: My take on it is, yeah, the
37 State would like to make that so. And you know, you might even
38 actually win it in a court case. But there is a Park Service,
39 you know, regulation and there is fairly reasoned regarding
40 jurisdiction and I would say that, you know, we would probably
41 cite that person and try pushing it. So it's kind of a fuzzy
42 gray area actually, in the river.

43
44 MS. GEORGETTE: Right.

45
46 MR. ADKISSON: But I think given the current
47 regulations I think we could try to make it stick that that
48 would be illegal.

49
50 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Ken, can we get some posters

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1 here?

2

3 MR. ADKISSON: I think we can start working on
4 it.

5

6 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Start working on it.

7

8 MR. ADKISSON: Yeah.

9

10 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So the people will know.

11

12 MR. SMITH, SR: It seems like I'm taking too
13 much of your time.

14

15 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: No, no, no, don't go.
16 Anybody got anything else?

17

18 MR. ASHBY: I got a question about the gray
19 areas.

20

21 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Enoch.

22

23 MR. SHIEDT: So the hunters come in -- like
24 from different towns they go hunting in the Park land.
25 Somebody they go in -- illegal, I don't -- they don't have any
26 lands here in the Park, but they go in and they bring out, then
27 they got those -- you know, our area for subsistence.

28

29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: It's just within the Park
30 boundaries.

31

32 MR. SHIEDT: This would be the Parks. How
33 about the State?

34

35 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: The State, they don't -- as
36 long as you have a State license. But also within that Park,
37 you know, there's some communities that are listed that the
38 residents can go and hunt in the Park, in the resident zone,
39 the Upper Kobuk, Noorvik, Kiana, Kotzebue, and Selawik, I
40 think, and maybe Noatak. But I'm not exactly sure which
41 villages.

42

43 Go ahead, Raymond.

44

45 MR. STONEY: Mr. Chairman, I have noticed last
46 summer that we had some hunters from Kotzebue that was non-
47 Natives in the Kobuk -- the Kobuk Valley and River and going
48 way up as far as Onion (indiscernible) and below that. And
49 these guys were non-residents of Unit 23, they were
50 (indiscernible), can they also hunt like we do?

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: If you're a resident of
2 Kotzebue, yeah.

3
4 MR. STONEY: Even though they're a resident for
5 one day?

6
7 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: No, they have to be a
8 resident of Kotzebue.

9
10 MR. STONEY: For how long?

11
12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Well, there's a requirement
13 of 30 days, I think. Is there regulations that are different?

14
15 MR. KNAUER: They have to establish residency.
16 In other words, they actually have to live there. And that
17 means set up residency, move their voting registration, have
18 their kids in school there, you know. It can't be coming in
19 for just the summer or working for a month, you know. The
20 intent has to be to live there permanently.

21
22 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any other questions?

23
24 MR. ASHBY: Yes, I have one. Ken, you
25 mentioned something about new things coming up, can you kind of
26 clarify what you were saying?

27
28 MR. ADKISSON: You mean about the regulations?

29
30 MR. ASHBY: Yeah. I'd like to hear those.

31
32 MR. ADKISSON: I didn't bring the regulation
33 with me, but I could provide the Councilmembers a copy of them.
34 But it's something that's happened within the last couple
35 years, that the Park Service has broadened its jurisdiction
36 over waters where it has an interest and beyond that I can't
37 really tell you but I'll dig it up and send it out to the
38 Councilmembers if you'd like and we could bring it up and
39 discuss it if you wanted at the next meeting or something.

40
41 MR. ASHBY: The reason I'm asking that is just
42 about 20 miles from our village is where the Park takes over
43 and if you guys are going to take jurisdiction over that on
44 hunting, I'd like to be -- like clarification because that's
45 where we hunt and that's going to make a real big difference on
46 our people that hunt.

47
48 MR. ADKISSON: Okay, I'll get that for you and
49 we can keep talking about that.

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Raymond.

2

3 MR. STONEY: Mr. Chairman, since we're talking
4 about Kobuk quite a bit, now my next question is for the
5 Squirrel. I'll ask Randy, what is the procedure of our sport
6 hunting and subsistence uses up there at the Squirrel? I know
7 it's managed by the BLM.

8

9 MS. MEYERS: And your question is what about
10 sport hunters in the Squirrel?

11

12 MR. STONEY: Is the sport hunt legalized in the
13 Squirrel and also subsistence users? I know it's managed by
14 BLM.

15

16 MS. MEYERS: Right. And so at this point it's
17 pretty wide open that you can go there from -- as long as you
18 have a valid State hunting license.

19

20 MR. STONEY: Yeah.

21

22 MS. MEYERS: And with anywhere in Alaska, you
23 can go there and hunt and the same for a subsistence user, it's
24 wide open to a subsistence user, too.

25

26 MR. STONEY: Okay.

27

28 MS. MEYERS: And so I don't see that changing
29 any time in the near future. They're just Federal public lands
30 and pretty much open to a lot of different kinds of uses.

31

32 MR. STONEY: Uh-huh.

33

34 MS. MEYERS: Is that what you.....

35

36 MR. STONEY: Yes. And finally, are you
37 planning to have a fish and wildlife protection officer this
38 coming season for Squirrel River from the Fairbanks office?

39

40 MS. MEYERS: Okay. The fish and wildlife
41 protection officer would be a different program, with the
42 State, but you're probably referring to the BLM Ranger. You
43 know different names for the same sort of function.

44

45 MR. STONEY: Yeah.

46

47 MS. MEYERS: And we're certainly going to try
48 to get a BLM Ranger to come out and spent some time in the
49 Squirrel.

50

1 MR. STONEY: Okay, thanks Randy.

2
3 MS. MEYERS: Sure.

4
5 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any other comments. Enoch.

6
7 MR. SHIEDT: Is there a possibility for all the
8 different agencies, Park Service, BLM, Fish and Game, to, in
9 the future look into enforcement together as one? Because we
10 never know when the conflict's going to happen in which Park
11 land, and every time we want to get enforcement done, we got to
12 either get a hold of Park Service, we got to get a hold of BLM,
13 NANA, KIC, what we need to do is start having some sort of all
14 the agencies get together and give a little together and
15 everybody could probably pay that person one -- if something
16 happened in different agencies problems, a conflict arises,
17 they need to come because by the time it's happened, it's one
18 month, two months before anything can be done. And they're
19 tired of waiting to see if they'll get it.

20
21 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Donna.

22
23 MS. DEWHURST: Joint jurisdiction occurs in a
24 lot of parts of the state where it doesn't matter whether
25 you're State law enforcement or Federal, you can enforce on
26 either lands and then you just pass the ticket on to whoever
27 else -- like if it was a Federal and they caught a State
28 violation, they pass it on to the State and it goes through the
29 State courts, but that's done in a lot of other parts of the
30 State. So there's no reason why it couldn't be instituted up
31 here.

32
33 MR. SHIEDT: The reason why I brought that up
34 when I was -- I brought it up to the State and Feds and
35 somebody spooking caribou right in the river, that was five
36 years ago. Gave them the paperwork, I gave them a number and
37 I didn't see anything happen. And I came back and oh, the
38 paperwork got lost between -- you know, it's going through too
39 many different hands is what I believe he's saying. And the
40 feeling I got is somebody just lost it so they won't go there
41 to check it out. If you keep going through different hands
42 it's real easy to get lost.

43
44 I even gave them the plane number and I said, what's
45 going to be done about this and that wasn't the only one, there
46 was three boats there.

47
48 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Donna, can we do something
49 about this at the same time while we're working on the user
50 conflict issue?

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1 MS. DEWHURST: It could certainly be brought up
2 there but it's a very simple process that the agencies have to
3 do themselves.

4
5 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

6
7 MS. DEWHURST: They just have to work it out.

8
9 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Well.....

10
11 MS. DEWHURST: It's no problem between the
12 Federal agencies, jurisdiction is not an issue between the
13 Federal agencies, the issue becomes between the State and the
14 Feds. But that is real easy to overcome. They just have to
15 talk to the State and get the State authority, it's a couple of
16 forms to fill out.

17
18 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What kind of action do you
19 need from us to go ahead?

20
21 MS. DEWHURST: You could suggest it but that's
22 about it. I mean all you could do would be -- if it isn't
23 already in place -- I don't even know if it's -- it may already
24 been in place but if it's not you can make the suggestion that
25 the Park Service and Fish and Wildlife and BLM get to a joint
26 jurisdiction.

27
28 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Barb.

29
30 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I think what Enoch is trying
31 to say, too, is that a lot of times up here when you want to do
32 an enforcement and you give it to one person, an enforcer, that
33 enforcer will say well, that's not my jurisdiction and then you
34 have to go somewhere and then the buck is passed. And then by
35 that time you lose interest because you don't know who to deal
36 with.

37
38 MS. DEWHURST: Well, that's what I'm saying.
39 Like on the Alaska Peninsula and I used to do law enforcement
40 back there way back when, we had joint enforcement. I could
41 enforce on State lands or Federal lands, it didn't matter. And
42 same way, the State guy had dual jurisdiction. It can be done.

43
44 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Well, I guess up here it
45 needs to be clarified for these people here in our region so
46 our people will understand.

47
48 MR. SHIEDT: Yes.

49
50 MS. DEWHURST: Well, I don't know if it's even

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1 in place here but I'm saying it could be put into place. It's
2 not a really complicated thing to do.

3

4 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: As Chair, then I'm making
5 that request.

6

7 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: To.

8

9 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: To the Subsistence office
10 to.....

11

12 MS. DEWHURST: Well, it's not us, it's those
13 guys. We don't have any say in it.

14

15 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: See, passing the buck.

16

17 MS. MEYERS: (Indiscernible)

18

19 MS. DEWHURST: No, I mean we.....

20

21 MR. ADKISSON: (Indiscernible)

22

23 MS. DEWHURST:we don't do enforcement.

24

25 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: One at a time, please.

26

27 MS. DEWHURST: Our office doesn't do

28 enforcement.

29

30 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. That's what we'll do,
31 we're doing that. Ken, that all the Federal agencies and the
32 State look at joint enforcement of the regulations.

33

34 MS. MEYERS: And so I can, you know, look into
35 the BLM side of that.

36

37 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Right.

38

39 MS. MEYERS: And check in with Ken and see how
40 things are going and check in with Fish and Wildlife Service,
41 Natural Wildlife Service and just see if this is a possibility
42 for our area. We'll just explore that.

43

44 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. And give us a report.

45

46 MS. MEYERS: Okay.

47

48 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I mean we need to know.

49

50 MS. MEYERS: At the next meeting.

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: And if there's some kind of
2 action that needs to be taken then we'll certainly do it.

3
4 Okay, anything else on subsistence management. If not
5 we can move right along or does somebody want to take a break
6 or just move right along, what's the wish?

7
8 MR. STONEY: Move right along.

9
10 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Move right along. Item 7,
11 Proposals to change seasons, harvest limits, method and means
12 on the Federal Subsistence Regulations. Tab S.

13
14 MS. DEWHURST: I'll start. Helen and I were
15 just discussion, we'll do the two overlap proposals first since
16 the Park Service isn't here yet -- or Dave, I shouldn't say the
17 Park Service isn't here, Dave isn't here yet.

18
19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

20
21 MS. DEWHURST: So we'll start on Tab S, Page
22 70.

23
24 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Page 70.

25
26 MS. DEWHURST: This is a muskox proposal
27 primarily for Seward Peninsula but the reason it's an overlap
28 proposal is it also involves Buckland and Deering. So that's
29 why you folks are asked to comment on it.

30
31 This is a fairly simple one. There's actually two
32 proposals. The only overlap proposal is Proposal 46 but the
33 analysis were lumped so 46 and 47 are together. But the main
34 comments we're requesting from you gentlemen -- well, I
35 shouldn't say gentlemen, there's a lady in the room, it would
36 be on 46.

37
38 Proposal 46 is -- there was a special action last year
39 to start for the first time a joint State and Federal muskox
40 hunt on the Seward Peninsula. There's a long history to it
41 where there was a lot of back and forth and then there was a
42 Federal system -- it was the only one that actually got
43 established and that was all we had for several years. But it
44 just wasn't working with the Federal system alone. We had some
45 problems on where the Federal lands were located, people had to
46 go long distances passing good muskox that they couldn't hunt
47 because they were on State lands. So it kind of came to a
48 really good mix, in that, we have a combined -- now we have a
49 combined State/Federal hunt where you can hunt in the Tier II
50 system under the State and there's also still a Federal

00023

1 subsistence system. And so far it's been working out fairly
2 well.

3

4 So what this proposal is, Proposal 46, which is the
5 overlap proposal is to make this what -- the special action
6 just made it for one year. Proposal 46 would make it
7 permanent. So it would make this -- combine State and Federal
8 muskox hunt on the Seward Peninsula a permanent situation and
9 put it permanently on the regs. So that's it in a nutshell.

10

11 It's fairly simple. And it's gone through a lot. It's
12 pretty broadly supported on the Seward Peninsula. We had
13 several meetings with the working group and the planning group
14 on muskox down there and so far so good on it.

15

16 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: How does it effect Buckland
17 and Deering?

18

19 MS. DEWHURST: They are eligible under both
20 systems. They can apply for Tier II permits and hunt on State
21 lands or they also -- how many permits do they get in the
22 Federal system, Ken?

23

24 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: It was 12/8, wasn't it?

25

26 MS. DEWHURST: That sounds -- well, it's
27 actually eight wasn't it?

28

29 MR. ADKISSON: Yeah, I think it was eight,
30 maybe eight and two.

31

32 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Eight and two?

33

34 MR. ADKISSON: Yeah. I believe there were 10
35 permits for those two villages. The villages wanted more
36 Federal permits than they did State permits. So there were two
37 State permits. Both of those went to Deering. And when we
38 issued the Federal permits we kind of tried to adjust to
39 compensate for it. So what it amounts to, each year we go back
40 to those two villages and they're good about working together
41 and they pretty well determine how they want the permits
42 distributed.

43

44 If you have a State Tier II permit and you're a
45 resident of Buckland and Deering, you can use that to hunt on
46 State and private lands and Federal lands as well. If you have
47 a Federal permit and you live in one of those two villages, you
48 can only use it on Federal lands. And so that's -- to my
49 knowledge, there hasn't been any harvest out of either one of
50 those two villages to-date.

1 Percy, have you heard about anybody over in Buckland
2 getting one?

3

4 MR. BALLOT: No, nobody has.

5

6 MR. ADKISSON: I think maybe if the weather
7 improves and stuff we'll probably see, typical, an increased
8 harvest. So basically, you know, those two villages are
9 calling the shots as to how they want the permits distributed.

10

11 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman.

12

13 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Percy.

14

15 MR. BALLOT: From our meeting we were just
16 going to try and see how this goes for a year or so at a time
17 but now it's going to be a law. And if we decided that we
18 didn't want this, what do we -- do we bring it back to the
19 Board?

20

21 MR. ADKISSON: You bring it back to the
22 Regional Advisory Councils, to the Board, if you really feel
23 it's not working.

24

25 Just for information, it's been a really overall, in
26 the Seward Peninsula, it's been a real slow harvest year.
27 Those people who have been successful by and large have been
28 using their State permits and not the Federal permits. So we
29 expect things to change here in the next month or two but
30 that's where we're at now.

31

32 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What do you need from us,
33 Donna?

34

35 MS. DEWHURST: Either to support it or oppose
36 it or defer it. That's basically your options.

37

38 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What is the wish of the
39 Council? Percy, do you have any problem with it?

40

41 MR. BALLOT: Not really. I just was wondering
42 if it is possible for the advisory group in our area, did they
43 get a chance to discuss this?

44

45 MR. ADKISSON: The Seward Peninsula Council
46 will meet the 5th.

47

48 MS. DEWHURST: Friday.

49

50 MR. ADKISSON: In three days, yes.

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: They haven't met yet.

2

3 MR. BALLOT: I meant the Northwest -- that
4 Advisory Group, the Buckland, Deering and so.....

5

6 MR. ADKISSON: The muskoxen group?

7

8 MR. BALLOT: No.

9

10 MS. GEORGETTE: The advisory committees.

11

12 MR. ADKISSON: Oh, the Fish and Game advisory
13 committee?

14

15 MR. BALLOT: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

16

17 MR. ADKISSON: You guys are in a slightly
18 different one and I'm not sure what the status on that one is.
19 I suspect that -- yeah, come to think of it because when they
20 -- I'm not sure which one because it might have been the Noa --
21 the Kotzebue one did, the Kotzebue, I think, Fish and Game
22 Advisory Committee looked at it here when they met right after
23 that muskoxen workshop and user conflict group. Other than
24 that, I don't know on the State side. Do you know.

25

26 MS. GEORGETTE: I don't think that Buckland and
27 Deering committee has met recently. I think it's been a while.

28

29

30 MR. BALLOT: They were the ones that had
31 concerns that we're really monitoring the muskox hunt, you
32 know, and that they should have been given notice or something.

33

34 MR. ADKISSON: We could probably try to make an
35 effort to make sure that that specific group is more involved
36 in the process as we go down the road, Percy.

37

38 MR. BALLOT: Okay.

39

40 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What's the wish of the
41 Council? Does anybody have any problems with supporting this?
42 It's a benefit for -- it's been discussed and it's taking care
43 of Buckland and Deering. I certainly don't have any problems
44 supporting it.

45

46 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman I'll move to support
47 Proposal 46.

48

49 MR. ASHBY: Second.

50

00026

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any discussion.

2
3 MS. WARD: Question.

4
5 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All those in favor signify
6 by aye.

7
8 IN UNISON: Aye.

9
10 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Opposed.

11
12 (No opposing responses)

13
14 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: You got that motion that
15 that was to support?

16
17 COURT REPORTER: I got it.

18
19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Donna.

20
21 MS. DEWHURST: Helen's next.

22
23 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Oh, Helen.

24
25 MS. DEWHURST: We'll be on Page 34 under Tab S.

26
27 MR. ASHBY: Thirty-four.

28
29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Thirty-four on Tab S.

30
31 MS. GEORGETTE: Donna, what about 47 or was
32 that.....

33
34 MS. DEWHURST: We're going to do them.

35
36 MS. GEORGETTE: Okay.

37
38 MS. DEWHURST: We're just waiting for Dave.

39
40 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: But no, 46.....

41
42 MS. DEWHURST: Oh, 47's not an overlap because
43 it's just 22(D).

44
45 MS. GEORGETTE: Oh, okay.

46
47 MS. DEWHURST: That's why.

48
49 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I looked at it too, and I
50 was wondering.

1 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, they were lumped together
2 but the overlap is only in 22(D).
3

4 MS. GEORGETTE: I see, okay.
5

6 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
7 Proposal 43 on Page 34 is also an overlap proposal. This one
8 primarily deals with the people in Eastern and Western Interior
9 but it's being presented to this Council because it overlaps
10 with Unit 23.
11

12 The proposal was submitted quite a while ago. It's one
13 of our deferred customary and traditional use determination
14 proposals by the Middle Yukon Fish and Game Advisory Committee
15 and the State Interior Regional Fish and Game Council. The
16 proposal is that residents of Unit 21, 23, Tanana and Russian
17 Mission be given positive C&T for black bear in Unit 21.
18

19 The way it works right now is there's a no
20 determination so that means that any rural resident can take
21 black bear in Unit 21 and this would define it a little bit
22 more so it's not any resident, just any resident could take
23 black bear.
24

25 Before I get too far into it, I wanted to let you know
26 that Eastern Interior did vote on this last weekend and they
27 voted not to support the proposal because they decided it was
28 better to have a more open C&T and not restrict anyone, they
29 were afraid they would be restricting some people so they did
30 not support the proposal.
31

32 This is a real lengthy analysis in your book because it
33 deals with such a large area. There's a map on Page 35 that
34 shows you the whole area and how many communities. I'm only
35 going to deal with Unit 23 since I talked to Willie earlier and
36 he said just to focus on that area, not talk about the
37 remaining area.
38

39 I'm not sure I need to really go into the C&T for black
40 bear for Unit 23. This Council did give C&T in Unit 23 for
41 black bear last year so I think we established that people do
42 hunt black bear and that this is just a question of whether
43 they hunt it in Unit 21 or not.
44

45 The analysis -- I didn't write this proposal analysis,
46 but the person who wrote it found a little bit of information
47 about black bear being taken as far south as Hogatza River, I
48 don't know if I'm saying that right, which is just north of
49 Unit 21. But this Council, last spring had given some
50 testimony saying that people went into 21(D) so for that reason

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1 he decided that he would recommend a positive C&T for the
2 residents of Unit 23 in Unit 21.

3

4 And I'll leave it up to the Council to make your
5 recommendation. Did I give you enough information? I didn't
6 give you everything that was in here but I kind of -- but
7 hopefully that's enough.

8

9 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Does anybody have any
10 questions?

11

12 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I don't know if it's worth
13 going through, there's the eight factors for C&T, if we needed
14 to go all through those since we went through that last year on
15 this.

16

17 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So we don't really have to
18 do anything here, uh?

19

20 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I need to have
21 recommendation of whether you support or -- and you can choose
22 to only support that portion of the proposal that effects 23 if
23 you'd like or you can support the whole -- the recommendation
24 for the whole proposal, I guess I should tell you that, was,
25 the preliminary conclusions were to give C&T for Unit 21(A) to
26 residents of Unit 21, Aniak, Crooked Creek, McGrath, Takotna
27 and Akiachak; 21(B) to residents of 21 and Tanana; 21(C) to
28 residents of 21, Tanana and Huslia; 21(D) to residents of Unit
29 21, Deering, Candle, Buckland, Selawik, Huslia and Tanana; and
30 21(E) to rural residents of 21 and Russian Mission. So
31 actually it was defined more that -- I stated it wrong,
32 actually, that only the more southern residents, those of
33 Deering, Candle, Buckland, Selawik would have C&T for 21(D).

34

35 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Percy.

36

37 MR. BALLOT: No problem.

38

39 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: No problem?

40

41 MR. BALLOT: Good.

42

43 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Good?

44

45 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

46

47 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Are there any communities
48 left out of that do you think?

49

50 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I don't think so. Unless

00029

1 the Upper Kobuk were that far south.

2

3 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

4

5 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman, I'll move to support
6 Proposal 43.

7

8 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Is there a second?

9

10 MR. STONEY: Second.

11

12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any discussion?

13

14 MR. KNAUER: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman.

15

16 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Bill.

17

18 MR. KNAUER: Clarification. Are you supporting
19 the Staff recommendation as Helen read it?

20

21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Or only that portion that
22 applies to Unit 23?

23

24 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Only that portion that
25 applies to Unit 23, right?

26

27 MR. BALLOT: Yeah.

28

29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

30

31 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

32

33 MR. KNAUER: Thank you.

34

35 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair, that
36 was easy.

37

38 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anymore discussion on the
39 motion?

40

41 MR. BALLOT: Question.

42

43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All those in favor signify
44 by saying aye.

45

46 IN UNISON: Aye.

47

48 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Opposed.

49

50 (No opposing responses)

00030

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Unanimous. Okay, are we
2 still waiting for Park Service then?

3
4 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, I'm surprised they're not
5 here.

6
7 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Are they coming in with
8 Bering Air?

9
10 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah.

11
12 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I think I just heard them
13 saying a while ago that they were landing.

14
15 MR. KNAUER: Yes.

16
17 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Why don't we take 10 minutes
18 then, uh?

19
20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

21
22 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, let's take a break for
23 10 minutes and then we'll get right back to it again.

24
25 (Off record - 11:00 a.m.)

26
27 (On record - 11:06 a.m.)

28
29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Let's get back to order
30 here. For those of you that just came in we're on Item 7 in
31 the agenda. We just acted positively on 46 -- 43 and 46,
32 right? 47 was outside of the unit so we didn't take any action
33 on that. Now, we're back to Donna. Are we going to proceed,
34 are we going to talk this moose stuff here?

35
36 MS. DEWHURST: We have both sheep and moose
37 next.

38
39 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Does anybody know if any of
40 the biologist are coming up that did the counting on the moose?

41
42 MS. DEWHURST: They're not.

43
44 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: They're not?

45
46 MS. DEWHURST: They're doing it now. They're
47 doing it right now.

48
49 MS. GEORGETTE: They're doing moose counts on
50 the Seward Peninsula in the Nome area. So that's where Fish

1 and Game is for this week and down in that area and it's a
2 group out of the Nome office.

3

4 MR. ADKISSON: Brad's involved in some kind of
5 -- he's got a helicopter up there and he's involved in some
6 sort of wolverine study and I don't know who all's -- you know,
7 helping him out.

8

9 MS. DEWHURST: So there's not going to be --
10 none of those folks are going to make it. So I don't think it
11 should be a big deal because really there isn't that much
12 biology involved in these two proposals. The issues involved
13 aren't really biological issues, it's more people issues. And
14 we do have the information from them that's in the analysis so
15 we can refer to that.

16

17 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

18

19 MS. DEWHURST: The next one would be the sheep
20 proposal which starts on Page 3 or Page 4, Tab S.

21

22 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: On Tab S, Page 3 and 4.

23

24 MS. DEWHURST: That's where it starts. Well,
25 actually the proposal starts -- the analysis.

26

27 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Let's do the sheep
28 one first, uh?

29

30 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah. The actual analysis
31 starts on Page 10. This one, like the muskox proposal is kind
32 of a carryover proposal and it was a special action as most of
33 you probably remember last August. We went through a lot of
34 debate on that at the time. And we got it through and
35 established a Federal sheep hunt. It's been closed for a
36 number of years because the sheep population up here has not
37 done well. Well, recently the sheep population has been
38 determined to starting to do better but still not great. But
39 there is -- the biologists do all agree that there is a surplus
40 of old rams, the full-curl rams, so that's what we're
41 concentrating on for the harvest at this time.

42

43 This proposal basically would make that special action
44 a permanent action like we talked about with the muskox. A
45 couple of the little things that have gone on since, there has
46 been a special action just in the past month to establish a
47 designated hunter provision where you could -- an elder could
48 have somebody else hunt for them in a village.

49

50 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Or anyone.

1 MS. DEWHURST: Or anybody, it doesn't have to
2 be an elder. Anybody could have somebody else hunt for them if
3 they were unable. That did pass but that is not part --
4 presently that is not part of this proposal. This proposal
5 does not carry the designated hunter forward. This proposal is
6 just taking the original special action and carrying that
7 forward which is still saying that all the sheep basically on
8 Federal lands will be -- the Federal lands are closed to non-
9 Federally qualified users. So it's taking the entire quota of
10 available sheep and keeping them for the Federally qualified
11 subsistence user.

12
13 The split was between the Bairds and the DeLongs. A
14 couple of the minor changes that have been made in this

15
16 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What clarification.....

17
18 MS. DEWHURST: Oh, I'm sorry, you guys don't
19 have those.

20
21 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: We have the map but what I
22 wanted to ask for the benefit of the people in Kiana, the
23 Squirrel River Drainage, is that part of it, too?

24
25 MS. DEWHURST: Oh, I'm sorry, I didn't hear
26 you?

27
28 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: The Squirrel River Drainage?

29
30 MS. DEWHURST: Well, I don't know if there's
31 any sheep down in the drainage, they're up high.

32
33 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I mean up in the mountains
34 up there?

35
36 MS. MEYERS: Yeah, mostly along the.....

37
38 MS. DEWHURST: Is that part of the Bairds --
39 yeah.

40
41 MS. MEYERS:crest.....

42
43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: But they would be open to --
44 that's part of the Baird?

45
46 MR. ADKISSON: It would be all Federal public
47 lands.

48
49 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

1 MS. DEWHURST: A couple of the minor changes
2 were changing the language. There was a miscommunication and
3 we went back to the transcript to clarify this. Somehow when
4 the original proposal was put in writing from the verbal, some
5 words got changed and we're trying to fix that. And it's up to
6 20 and the language that was originally written in the proposal
7 is up to 20 permits, it's supposed to be up to 20 full-curl
8 rams. So any number of permits can be issued. There's no
9 limit on the number of permits, we're limiting how many actual
10 sheep can be taken.

11
12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: That's on Page 5.

13
14 MS. DEWHURST: That's one clarification. And
15 the other minor clarification is just the changing in the name
16 of the Park Superintendent -- well, the name of the Park used
17 to be Northwest area, now it's Western Arctic National Park
18 lands.

19
20 MR. ASHBY: That first clarification was
21 on.....

22
23 MS. DEWHURST: The proposal itself back on
24 page, wherever it is.

25
26 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Four.

27
28 MR. ADKISSON: Four.

29
30 MS. DEWHURST: Says up to 20 permits will be
31 issued in each area. That was a misprint. It should say up to
32 20 sheep will be allowed to be taken in each area. Any number
33 of permits can be issued. Like presently I think there's
34 around 70 permits that are out there.

35
36 MR. ADKISSON: There's 78 permits.

37
38 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, so it's way in excess of
39 20 in each area. So we aren't trying to limit the number of
40 permits we're trying to limit the number of sheep that are
41 actually harvested. So we clarified that in the language.
42 That's one minor clarification.

43
44 The next sheep surveys will be done in June so they're
45 not going to be much use to us. So we can only use last years
46 information at this time. The present harvest has been low but
47 it's early yet in the season. I'll pass that over to Ken to
48 give us some update of that. The main thing when you hear that
49 is just keep in mind it's very early in the season, a big chunk
50 of the harvest is probably going to occur this month. so we

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1 can't go too far from the numbers we have so far.

2

3 Ken.

4

5 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Before you go, Ken, maybe
6 let me explain what happened here.

7

8 MR. ADKISSON: Okay.

9

10 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah, to the residents of
11 Kiana here.

12

13 Last spring when they counted the sheep, you know, we
14 never hunted sheep north of the Noatak in nine years and south
15 of the Noatak has been closed for what is it, six years.....

16

17 MS. DEWHURST: Roughly, yeah.

18

19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah. So last spring when
20 they counted the sheep it was right at the level that maybe it
21 could open. So what happened was when those numbers came in,
22 the State of Alaska proposed a regulation that would allow for
23 sport hunting also. So what we did was propose a regulation
24 for subsistence users to get the first priority. So we had a
25 special action passed so that up to 20 can be -- the full-curl
26 rams, the residents in the region can get full-curl ram sheep
27 right now. Up to 20 of them, yeah.

28

29 MR. JACKSON, SR: Only one?

30

31 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah, only one but they got
32 to be a full-curl.

33

34 MR. JACKSON, SR: Yeah.

35

36 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, those were determined
37 excess by the biologists. Now, we don't know -- what we did
38 was take a special action because the State was going to go
39 ahead with theirs anyway. So when we passed that it took away,
40 I think three from the guides and gave them to our local
41 people. They were still able to get, if they wanted to on
42 State lands, but on Federal lands, the Noatak Preserve, the
43 Squirrel River, Park lands here -- I mean the BLM lands is open
44 to us.

45

46 MR. JACKSON, SR: Uh-huh.

47

48 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: To hunt sheep. Since that
49 special action is only good for one year, the regulation, what
50 we're trying to do is make it permanent with this so it will

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1 stay like that for the residents in the region to be able to
2 get the full-curl ram again.

3

4 It's going to determine largely on what the count is
5 going to come this spring. So if they're still right around
6 there I'm going to assume -- well, it's going to be in place.
7 The only thing that could stop it as far as I know is that if
8 the numbers are lower than what they count, then they -- the
9 managing authority, in this case, the Park Service and BLM, can
10 limit the number of sheep to be taken. They have that
11 authority.

12

13 So with this regulation in place, it keeps it open for
14 us to be able to hunt. But if there's more than what they
15 count, my question is, will the State try to come back again?

16

17 MS. DEWHURST: We -- yeah, we're already.....

18

19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: If we got this.....

20

21 MS. DEWHURST:getting approached by the
22 State.

23

24 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah. If we pass this, can
25 we keep the limit at 20?

26

27 MS. DEWHURST: We can keep the limit at 20.
28 The problem you're going to run into and what the State is
29 talking already to us about is they don't have any concern with
30 the Bairds. The Bairds, they're leaving alone. With the
31 DeLong Mountains there is concern that if the harvest ends up
32 being low, let's -- right now, I think there's only been one
33 harvested in the DeLongs and if -- when this is all said and
34 done a month from now and the hunt's over and it's still very
35 low, let's say two or three are taken out of the DeLongs, there
36 is a request from the State that we would give somewhere in the
37 neighborhood of three to four permits back to the State, just
38 in the DeLongs, so that would change our quota to like 16 or
39 something.

40

41 I'm just saying that is what is being requested.

42

43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Wait a minute, since we have
44 determined last year that the sheep go back and forth across
45 the Noatak River, why can't we add those four to the Baird
46 Mountains?

47

48 MS. DEWHURST: Well, that's one I couldn't
49 answer that one because right now we're managing them as two
50 separate populations. They are being managed as the Bairds and

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1 the DeLong Mountain populations. I'm not sure there is that
2 much movement between the two.

3

4 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So who would make the
5 decision, would it be the Federal Subsistence Board to allow
6 it?

7

8 MS. DEWHURST: They can, yeah. They can -- I
9 mean if that is something that you folks definitely need to
10 discuss because they'll want your opinion on it. The Federal
11 Board will want your opinion on it. Because I can guarantee
12 that a month from now, if we only have two or three harvested
13 and Elizabeth Andrews or somebody from the State is going to be
14 at the Federal meeting and make this request, so the Board will
15 be interested in, you know, I think it would be good to discuss
16 it now just as a what if scenario. It may not happen. Maybe
17 there'll be a big harvest in the DeLongs but if the harvest
18 stays low, you need to be thinking about that because the State
19 will approach the Federal Board and ask for this. We know that
20 up front. And the Federal Board will be interested in what
21 this Council's opinion on that is and it will influence them.

22

23 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Joe, you understand what's
24 happening here? That if we don't get -- right now there's only
25 one sheep that's been taken north of the Noatak on the DeLong
26 Mountains?

27

28 MR. ADKISSON: Yeah.

29

30 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: If we don't get close to 20,
31 the State is going to ask to open up a sports hunt on Federal
32 lands. So we need to make sure that the people in Noatak and
33 Kivalina and Kotzebue, too, make every effort to go out and get
34 sheep.

35

36 You know, we did pass that special action to allow for
37 proxy hunts or designated hunters so some of the younger people
38 can go hunt for the elders now.

39

40 MR. AREY: Yeah.

41

42 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. So we need to get
43 that word out.

44

45 Ricky.

46

47 MR. ASHBY: Right now.....

48

49 MR. STONEY: Yeah, Mr. Chairman.....

50

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Hold it Ricky, let me hear
2 Raymond first.

3
4 MR. STONEY: Mr. Chairman, how many permits
5 have you issued so far?

6
7 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Seventy-eight.

8
9 MR. STONEY: That's my question.

10
11 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Have you broken them down?

12
13 MR. ADKISSON: Yeah, there's 74 permits out.

14
15 MR. STONEY: Okay.

16
17 MR. ADKISSON: Thirty-six of those were issued
18 to Kotzebue, the other 38 went to other villages in the
19 region.....

20
21 MR. STONEY: Okay.

22
23 MR. ADKISSON:with a smattering to even
24 Atqasuk and Point Hope. There were five permits issued for
25 Kiana.

26
27 MR. STONEY: And then up to-date, how many did
28 you get in harvest?

29
30 MR. ADKISSON: Okay, up to-date, there's been
31 a total of five animals reported harvested. One of those was
32 taken very early in the season by a Noatak resident out of the
33 DeLongs using boat access. The other four were taken by
34 Kotzebue residents.....

35
36 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, that's.....

37
38 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: These are the DeLongs?

39
40 MR. ADKISSON:by aircraft. The one
41 Noatak one was out of the DeLongs, yes.

42
43 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, it's actually.....

44
45 MR. ADKISSON: One out of the DeLongs.....

46
47 MS. DEWHURST:six -- five.....

48
49 MR. ADKISSON:and four out of the.....

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1 MS. DEWHURST: It's six.

2

3 MR. ADKISSON: There's a new one?

4

5 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah. It's five out of the
6 Bairds, one out of the DeLongs.

7

8 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I think the guides are
9 finally starting to go out now at Kotzebue because we finally
10 got enough snow.

11

12 So go ahead, Raymond, you had more.

13

14 MR. STONEY: Yeah, okay, that's my question.

15

16 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Ricky.

17

18 MR. ASHBY: Yeah. The weather's just getting
19 good and we finally get snow up there so you'll start seeing
20 here and there reports.....

21

22 MS. DEWHURST: Well, and that's why we say.....

23

24 MR. ASHBY:from the people.

25

26 MS. DEWHURST:don't worry about these
27 numbers so much right now. But we do need to talk about that
28 what if scenario.

29

30 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

31

32 MS. DEWHURST: If we don't take very many out
33 of the DeLongs, we know the State -- the State's already said
34 in their official comments that they want to make some sort of
35 a request and from informal conversations it sounds like it's
36 going to be three to four animals or in that neighborhood is
37 what they're going to request for the State.

38

39 MR. ASHBY: Can I finish?

40

41 MS. DEWHURST: Oh, I'm sorry.

42

43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Go ahead.

44

45 MS. DEWHURST: I'm sorry.

46

47 MR. ASHBY: When there's a low in any kind of
48 animals, isn't it first for subsistence and then State or
49 commercial or whatever?

50

1 MS. DEWHURST: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

2

3 MR. ASHBY: So since they just put only 20, why
4 don't they still continue to keep it as a subsistence. Use
5 that as a ground rule because.....

6

7 MS. DEWHURST: You.....

8

9 MR. ASHBY:right now when it's a low, we
10 got to get our people a chance to hunt, we've been waiting nine
11 years and like already somebody's willing to jump the gun and,
12 you know, do something. I haven't really done anything with
13 snowmachine myself so we're going to have to wait until these
14 guys start hunting. The snow just settled in and we've not
15 really had a real good storm yet and the creeks in the mountain
16 areas are kind of still just soft snow, so there'll be -- March
17 is the time that they'll be able to hunt and that will be good
18 for -- and the State can wait on the commercial hunt or the
19 sport hunt.

20

21 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Helen.

22

23 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I think it's important for
24 this Council to make sure that the word gets out to people that
25 there'll be sheep available and the fact that there's the
26 designated hunter permit which will help people.

27

28 I know when we were at the Barrow meeting, there was a
29 hunter from Atqasuk who wants to go into the DeLongs and when
30 he found out there was a designated hunter permit available
31 then he was excited because then he could get a permit -- you
32 know, family members to give him a permit so that he could get
33 more sheep. So that's kind of saying the word of mouth and
34 getting the word out to people so they know so that people will
35 get their sheep. Because like you said, if should be
36 subsistence users first.

37

38 MR. GRIEST: Mr. Chairman.

39

40 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Bert.

41

42 MR. GRIEST: What kind of time line are we
43 looking at? When is the State planning to submit its proposal
44 for the harvest?

45

46 MS. DEWHURST: Well, the Staff Committee meets
47 in April. Do you know the day Sandy?

48

49 MR. RABINOWITCH: April 13th, 14th is the Staff
50 Committee meeting. The State, if I'm not mistaken, need not

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1 really do anything because they have a regulation on the books
2 in their blue covered book this year that says they have a
3 sheep hunt. What they, I believe, have to do is then just
4 follow through administratively on issuing permits or whatever
5 their steps are.

6

7 So I think if the State does nothing they still --
8 anyone -- does that sound right to everyone, they have a hunt
9 on the books and they don't need to do anything to leave their
10 hunt on the books.

11

12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So it's just going to
13 require Federal action?

14

15 MS. DEWHURST: Yes.

16

17 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Go ahead, Raymond.

18

19 MR. STONEY: Well, Mr. Chairman, I'll ask the
20 question again like I asked the muskox. For myself, I'm not
21 really concerned about sheep because I'm not a sheep hunter,
22 maybe Ricky could answer my question. When is the best time to
23 eat a sheep, what's the condition right now in March and when
24 is the best time to get a good sheep when it's good and
25 healthy?

26

27 MR. ASHBY: Just like caribou, before they have
28 their -- in their stomachs -- we always hunt the sheep during
29 that time.

30

31 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Fall time?

32

33 MR. ASHBY: Especially like when it gets to
34 April, they'll start having little ones and they're the female
35 so, that's mostly where we try to get the sheep while they're
36 protect -- when we're getting their lambs because they're going
37 to be together with that for the spring.

38

39 MR. STONEY: How about right now?

40

41 MR. ASHBY: They're good.

42

43 MR. STONEY: Otherwise it's got to be a full
44 ram?

45

46 MR. ADKISSON: Yeah.

47

48 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

49

50 MR. STONEY: Okay.

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: We got to talk about this
2 here, the what if situation. What if we don't get 10? Now,
3 the State is going to, like she said, probably come with their
4 proposal to take three or four for guides, are we ready to
5 object to that?

6
7 Me, I want to object to it. I mean, gee whiz, the
8 numbers are low, the priority should go to us.

9
10 MR. ASHBY: Yes.

11
12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Ricky.

13
14 MR. ASHBY: What is there in writing about that
15 subsistence, when the population of any kind of animal is low,
16 is there special writing in there for subsistence?

17
18 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Bill, you got an answer to
19 that?

20
21 MR. ADKISSON: I'm sorry, what was that again?

22
23 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No, Bill.

24
25 MR. KNAUER: Wake up.

26
27 (Off record comments)

28
29 MR. KNAUER: Yes, Mr. Chairman, there is a
30 subsistence priority that provides when there is inadequate
31 harvestable surplus for all users, the priority goes to the
32 subsistence user.

33
34 The argument the State would make in this case is that
35 obviously because of the lack of harvest there is excess to
36 even the subsistence needs, therefore, they're saying there
37 should be an opportunity to harvest some of that that's excess
38 beyond subsistence needs. That is the argument that the State
39 would make.

40
41 You have two functions. First off, you should make a
42 recommendation on the proposal as it is; that should be your
43 first action. And then your second action should be to discuss
44 and come with a recommendation if the State were to go beyond.

45
46 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Here's what we'll do
47 then. We have the proposal in front of us. Right now it's in
48 the books as special action, what we need is action on this
49 proposal to make it a permanent regulation. And I will
50 entertain a motion at this time to take such action.

1 MR. STONEY: Proposal 48?

2
3 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yes.

4
5 MR. STONEY: Okay.

6
7 MS. DEWHURST: Keep in mind the Staff
8 recommendation does have the small modifications in the
9 wording, so.....

10
11 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Right.

12
13 MR. GRIEST: Mr. Chairman.

14
15 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Bert.

16
17 MR. GRIEST: I move that we accept Proposal 48
18 with the modifications.

19
20 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Is there a second?

21
22 MR. ASHBY: I second.

23
24 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any discussion on the
25 motion.

26
27 Sandy.

28
29 MR. RABINOWITCH: Just to repeat something that
30 Helen mentioned earlier. If you are interested in having the
31 designated hunter portion concept part of this you need to make
32 that clear in your motion also because it's not in the written
33 proposal as it's currently written in this book. So just a
34 reminder.

35
36 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Would it be in the same.....

37
38 MS. DEWHURST: That could be a modification
39 that the RAC makes to add that.

40
41 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. So you need action to
42 amend the motion?

43
44 MR. GRIEST: I'll amend it.

45
46 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: The motion would be amended
47 by saying that it's modified to allow for designated hunter?

48
49 MR. RABINOWITCH: If that's your wish.....

50

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1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

2

3 MR. RABINOWITCH:to express that clearly
4 makes it clear down the line.

5

6 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Does anyone wish to make
7 that proposal?

8

9 MR. ASHBY: I add modification to add
10 designated hunters.

11

12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah. Is there a second?

13

14 MR. BALLOT: Second.

15

16 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, we got that clear now,
17 we're proposing to pass this regulation -- asking the Federal
18 Subsistence Board to pass this as a permanent regulation with
19 the modification to allow for designated hunter.

20

21 Anymore discussion on the motion.

22

23 MR. GRIEST: Call for the question.

24

25 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Call roll please.

26

27 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Bert Griest.

28

29 MR. GRIEST: Yes.

30

31 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Raymond Stoney.

32

33 MR. STONEY: Yes.

34

35 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Wilfred Ashby.

36

37 MR. ASHBY: Yes

38

39 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Percy Ballot.

40

41 MR. BALLOT: Yes.

42

43 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Rosy Ward.

44

45 MS. WARD: Yes.

46

47 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Willie Goodwin.

48

49 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yes.

50

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Unanimous.

2

3 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Now, the other situation
4 before us is we need to be ready to speak in opposition or
5 concur should the State come in with a request to take some of
6 our sheep to put it bluntly.

7

8 This is, I guess, in response to some informal
9 conversations with the State people that if the numbers come in
10 low that our people don't harvest enough sheep in the DeLongs,
11 that the State will come in with a proposal to allow for the
12 taking of three or four on Federal lands for non-subsistence
13 use.

14 MS. DEWHURST: On Page 21 you can see the
15 State, ADF&G's comments.

16

17 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Twenty-one, Page 21.

18

19 MS. DEWHURST: They don't specifically spell
20 out the three to four sheep, they just say they're opposing a
21 portion in the DeLong Mountains.

22

23 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Right in the middle
24 it says if they do not take 20 sheep from the DeLong Mountains,
25 it should be unnecessary to close this area to all non-
26 Federally qualified subsistence hunters. Consideration should
27 be given to either reducing the quota on Federal lands to allow
28 a sheep harvest on Wulik Peaks State managed land or adjusting
29 Federal quota in conjunction with sheep taken under State
30 regulations.

31

32 MS. DEWHURST: See another situation that even
33 if you say, we want to keep Federal lands closed, the State can
34 hold a hunt like they're doing this year on the Wulik Peaks
35 that we have no control over. The only question comes to --
36 like right now it is being counted as part of the quota but
37 none have been taken on State lands as far as I'm aware of yet.

38

39 But the question comes to -- that's the other scenario,
40 even if we keep it closed, the State could hold a hunt on the
41 Wuliks independent of it, and the question, do we count that as
42 part of the combined quota or not is the other issue. It gets
43 kind of further complicated.

44

45 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Ken, go ahead you speak
46 first.

47

48 MR. ADKISSON: There's actually two
49 recommendations or two options that the State's laid out in
50 their comments and both of those have really different

1 biological and management implications. I think it's important
2 to focus on that.

3

4 I mean Donna pointed out the complexity of the
5 situation and where we were at last year and I hope we don't
6 have to revisit that again. But it was all agreed that a total
7 of up to 20 could be taken out of the DeLongs off all of the
8 lands. And where we were in the unenviable situation was there
9 was no cap on State which allowed them to harvest, you know, as
10 many as they could off of State land and then we would have to
11 adjust our Federal quota in accordance with that to stay within
12 the agreed 20. I hope we don't get to that stage again.

13

14 The point of taking the whole 20 is that there is those
15 State lands out there and there are still those animals on the
16 State lands. And I think one, you know, sort of relatively
17 painless solution to the dilemma is in what the State has
18 recommended, in that, you kind of come up with a formula and
19 divide the animals into Federal and State animals and let the
20 State do with what they want to do with their animals in the
21 Wuliks, and then that protects the rest of the harvest, you
22 know, in the DeLongs for Federal users and shouldn't lead to a
23 lot more discussion. That's one issue. You know, State
24 animals on State lands.

25

26 The second issue, I think, is what Bill pointed out is
27 that they can always come back and say that, you know, your
28 harvest is low on the Federal lands and want part of that. But
29 I think that we could sort of head that off if we agreed to
30 give them a hunt option on State lands. That's just a guess.

31

32 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I raised that question when
33 we were deliberating this last year. I said, why can't we just
34 take all 20 from Federal land? Is there a distinction between
35 State sheep and Federal sheep so to speak?

36

37 MR. ADKISSON: I'm not sure the sheep know
38 that.

39

40 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Well.....

41

42 MS. DEWHURST: And biologically you're right
43 but the problem is we have no control over what the State does
44 and the State can -- as they -- like Sandy mentioned, they have
45 a hunt on the books and they made it quite clear last year they
46 intended to follow through with that hunt in some way, shape or
47 form. And the problem, as Ken mentioned, is under the present
48 hunt there really isn't a cap on the number that the State
49 could take.

50

1 And that might be the one positive thing that if we did
2 section off three or four sheep and say those are the State
3 sheep that would kind of impose a cap on the number of sheep
4 that would be taken out of the 20. Where right now, if --
5 let's say in the next month if 10 sheep were taken out of the
6 Wulik Peaks, there's kind of an informal understanding that
7 those would be taken out of the 20. So it's kind of -- it's a
8 gray area, it's really tough.

9
10 You know, then it's like well, how many more can we
11 take on Federal lands. And we're all hoping that that doesn't
12 happen and that's kind of a worst case scenario. But right
13 now, like Ken mentions, there's no real cap on the Wuliks.
14 Although, I know the State has no intention of over harvesting,
15 it could happen, and that would be the one positive aspect of
16 maybe designating a number is that it would put a cap on how
17 many were taken out of there.

18
19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: One thing I did ask last
20 year and I got a clarification was that would there be a
21 biological problem if we took all 20 from Federal lands and the
22 answer was no.

23
24 MS. DEWHURST: But that doesn't stop the
25 State.....

26
27 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Right.

28
29 MS. DEWHURST:from taking more on State
30 lands.

31
32 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Raymond.

33
34 MR. STONEY: Mr. Chairman, like I say, very
35 confusing. And I suppose the people from the law enforcement
36 will be there when people hunt sheep to say it's on the Federal
37 land, on the State land, now, there's a sheep on the -- or
38 binding, that's one State land -- now, the sheep, with respect
39 to State land with one foot away from the BLM -- the Federal
40 land, what am I supposed to do just leave it there? Absolutely
41 not. That's the confusing part.

42
43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Susan.

44
45 MS. GEORGETTE: Well, I guess -- I mean there's
46 a hunt right now, a State hunt on the State lands, which are
47 kind of discreet lands, the Wulik Peak area, kind of at the
48 head of the Wulik River and Kivalina River. And as far as I
49 know there's been no sheep taken in that hunt yet.
50

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: But sport hunting is closed
2 right now, right, the season did close for sport hunting?

3
4 MS. GEORGETTE: Well, it's open to all Alaskan
5 residents but with no airplanes. But, yeah, the sport hunt,
6 the drawing hunt is closed.

7
8 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

9
10 MS. GEORGETTE: And there were no sheep taken,
11 though there were a couple of hunting parties that went out but
12 it was during that real lousy weather in the fall and there
13 were no sheep taken in that hunt. But that hunt is open and
14 I'm sure will be open again next year, probably. And so the
15 other two issues that Donna and Ken and Willie have mentioned,
16 which is one is I guess there is an informal understanding that
17 somehow if some are taken out of the Wulik Peaks, they kind of
18 come out of the 20 Federal ones. But though the State may
19 decide, you know, that if a couple came out of the Wulik Peaks
20 area, I guess, the Feds could still take the 20 and there would
21 be 22 taken or something like that.

22
23 But I think there are so few sheep in that Wulik Peaks
24 area that it's not as if there's going to be a lot of rams
25 coming out of there.

26
27 Then there's the other thing, is if -- the thing Donna
28 mentioned, which is if only five sheep are taken out of the
29 DeLongs, I imagine the State will come and ask for some of
30 those DeLong ones from Federal land also being available for
31 the State for a State hunt.

32
33 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: But if those sheep were
34 taken for subsistence purposes -- you know, I -- if they're
35 taken by our people -- if they were taken by the residents in
36 the region I don't have any problem deducting it. But if
37 they're taken from other parts of the state, people from other
38 parts of the state I do have a problem.

39
40 MR. ASHBY: Mr. Chairman.

41
42 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Ricky.

43
44 MR. ASHBY: Ken, for the long range goal on
45 this, is it right that what is the dates like when the Federal
46 takeover will be?

47
48 MR. ADKISSON: Oh, I mean as far as right now,
49 I mean the Federal program is in place and it applies to game.
50 We're only talking about additional Federal assumption relating

1 to fisheries management. So the Federal system's already in
2 place for dealing with like sheep.

3

4 MR. ASHBY: Okay. The thing I'm getting to is
5 if we're going to follow suit, like the Federal takeover, right
6 now we have the State on the State land but pretty soon that
7 will be added to the Federal takeover and for the future, like
8 even right now.....

9

10 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: No, we're not going to
11 takeover the State lands, no.

12

13 MR. ASHBY: For the future if that Federal
14 takeover like in the DeLong and the Baird Mountains, is that
15 still that way and right now the State is going into that area
16 and asking for -- with what their proposal is, to come into
17 there and take, so what about if we just leave it as it is to
18 subsistence and continue to hold that in subsistence during the
19 shortage even if the State asks for -- to come into the Baird
20 and DeLong Mountains so in the future we can continue to see
21 that. And that way they will be protected until there is
22 enough sheep again to be able to harvest for bulls for
23 subsistence.

24

25 Because there's a saying right here that says while
26 there's a shortage, let's just use it for subsistence. Let's
27 hold on to that and let that stand strong, at least, the DeLong
28 and the Baird Mountains. Because if the State wants to make a
29 hunt they'll make a hunt on their State lands. And we know
30 right now in that State land there is not much sheep and they
31 will go there anyway, it's their area where they can hunt. But
32 if we hold on to what -- like we can work with right here, the
33 DeLong and the Bairds, that way we would be able to stand
34 strong in that in the future. Because if we start letting them
35 go this way then they'll get more and more again and that will
36 create a problem in the future. So maybe right now we can just
37 stand and hold on to these two. If they want to do their hunt
38 over there, let them do their hunt and not try to, like I was
39 saying, that they don't have to talk about it or -- you know,
40 I know they won't try to kill off the rams over there because
41 they will want later on but leave that Brooks Range, Baird
42 Mountains, that area, DeLong, as it is written already and as
43 it is protected already for subsistence in time of shortage.

44

45 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Before we go on any
46 further, I want to make a clarification for the record that
47 Bert did come in about 11:10 and Sandy Rabinowitch, Park
48 Service and also now we have Dave Spirtes from the Park
49 Service. And I didn't get your name back there?

50

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1 MR. NORRIS: Frank Norris from the National
2 Park Service.

3
4 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anchorage?

5
6 MR. NORRIS: Yes.

7
8 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What do you do?

9
10 MR. NORRIS: I'm a historian.

11
12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Also we have a couple of
13 Kiana residents, Henry Jackson, Sr., and Roger Atoruk. We
14 certainly welcome them.

15
16 Okay, what I'm hearing is that we should go ahead and
17 leave our position as allowable subsistence harvest of all the
18 sheep that we can, right?

19
20 MR. ASHBY: Yes.

21
22 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: And still object to the
23 sport hunting in the Federal lands, right?

24
25 MR. ASHBY: Yes.

26
27 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Now, the issue is do we
28 object or do we concur with the State deducting sheep from the
29 20 in the DeLongs when they allow it to happen, if somebody
30 gets sheep in the Wulik Peaks.

31
32 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman.

33
34 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Bill.

35
36 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman, under Federal
37 regulations, action of the Federal Subsistence Board, no State
38 harvest is deducted from the 20 quota. That is under the
39 current Federal programming.

40
41 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All right, great. Now, I'm
42 sure on it.

43
44 MR. KNAUER: That is specific. The Federal
45 regulations address only the Federal hunt.

46
47 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So we can still continue to
48 get our 20 and the State will.....

49
50 MR. KNAUER: That's correct.

00050

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: If they have a biological
2 problem they get more than three.

3
4 MR. KNAUER: The Board has taken no other
5 action.

6
7 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. So our total quota is
8 still 20 in the DeLongs?

9
10 MR. KNAUER: (Nods affirmatively)

11
12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. So right now, Donna,
13 did you get our position; we will stay with Federally qualified
14 subsistence users to harvest sheep and oppose sport hunting on
15 Federal lands.

16
17 MR. KNAUER: What I'm saying is that's the way
18 it is right now. This Council could recommend the other way or
19 it could recommend it retain that stance.

20
21 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Ricky.

22
23 MR. ASHBY: Just retain it as it is now.

24
25 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So did you get that, we're
26 going to.....

27
28 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I didn't hear.

29
30 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: He said retain what we have
31 in the books right now without any changes.

32
33 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Why don't you go ahead and
34 vote on it to make it official.

35
36 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Why don't we what?

37
38 MS. DEWHURST: Vote.

39
40 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Vote on it?

41
42 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yes.

43
44 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Oh, you want a motion?

45
46 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yes.

47
48 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: You want a motion to.....

49
50 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: To state.....

1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Just to make it official.

2

3 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN:state that the position
4 of the Northwest Regional Advisory Council stands firm on its
5 position that the 20 sheep be harvested only for subsistence
6 purposes.

7

8 MR. GRIEST: So moved.

9

10 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Is there a second.

11

12 MS. WARD: Second.

13

14 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any discussion. So we got
15 that clear, right, that we're still opposing any sport hunt on
16 Federal lands?

17

18 MS. DEWHURST: (Nods affirmatively)

19

20 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I think just by the mere
21 fact that there's 70 some permits out there for sheep, it's a
22 pretty clear indication that people do want to get their sheep
23 it's just a matter of the conditions to harvest the sheep.

24

25 Do you need anything else Donna?

26

27 MS. DEWHURST: (Nods negatively)

28

29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anymore discussion on the
30 motion.

31

32 MR. BALLOT: Question.

33

34 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All those in favor signify
35 by saying aye.

36

37 IN UNISON: Aye.

38

39 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All opposed.

40

41 (No opposing responses)

42

43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Unanimous. So now you have
44 our position to bring forth to the Federal Subsistence Board
45 should the State come in and try to blindside us again. Mildly
46 put there.

47

48 Henry, you got a question?

49

50 MR. JACKSON: Mr. Chairman, does the State take

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1 over the country up there from BLM?

2

3 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yes. On -- I'll show you on
4 the map over here.

5

6 MR. JACKSON: Oh.

7

8 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: There's some State lands
9 over -- what we were talking about right now, Henry, was the
10 State lands are over here, okay.

11

12 MR. JACKSON: Uh-huh.

13

14 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: That's where they're
15 allowing their hunt to happen.

16

17 MR. JACKSON: Uh-huh.

18

19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: This is where our people can
20 hunt.

21

22 MR. JACKSON: In that area of where that no-
23 Name and North Park, is that where the State took over or what?

24

25 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: You mean on the Squirrel
26 River?

27

28 MR. JACKSON: Yeah, the Squirrel River?

29

30 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Oh, no, they haven't yet.
31 They've made selections but they haven't been turned over to
32 them yet.

33

34 MR. JACKSON: Well, there's guide hunters up
35 there and a guy like me didn't have much chance to go hunting,
36 you know.

37

38 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah. We're going -- that's
39 the next issue we're going to talk about here.

40

41 MR. JACKSON: Okay.

42

43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: We're getting right into it
44 and I'm going to ask for your input into it here.

45

46 MR. JACKSON: Okay.

47

48 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Because we're going to talk
49 specifically about the Squirrel River now, okay.

50

1 MR. JACKSON: (Nods affirmatively)

2

3 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anything else on the sheep?
4 What's the next thing? Do you want to break for lunch or shall
5 we go right with it or what's it look like back there?

6

7 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Is it ready? Not ready.
8 Another 45 minutes or so.

9

10 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, let's go on then
11 they're not ready to serve lunch. By the way, we're pretty
12 fortunate here, the community is going to serve us lunch today,
13 they're cooking back there for us.

14

15 What's the next proposal?

16

17 MS. DEWHURST: Okay, the analysis starts on
18 Page 24 under Tab S.

19

20 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Page 24.

21

22 MS. DEWHURST: The one everybody's been waiting
23 for, we save the best for last.

24

25 This is on moose. The proposal is to close Federal
26 lands along the Noatak River and the Squirrel River Drainages
27 to non-Federally qualified moose hunters. That's the way the
28 proposal is stated. There's a map on the next page, Page 25
29 there. Unfortunately it doesn't show the remainder of the
30 Noatak, the Noatak actually wanders along and actually gets
31 back on to the Gates of the Arctic. I think we might have a
32 map with the Park Service that shows that better. So it does
33 kind of continue on and go clear over to Gates of the Arctic
34 National Park.

35

36 We kind of have two separate issues here and I think,
37 at least, initially it'd be better to discuss the Noatak and
38 the Squirrel separately because it's almost two different
39 issues as far as what we're talking about.

40

41 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Well, I disagree with that
42 because I've been told that the moose go back and forth, down
43 to the Lower Kobuk, to the Noatak from the Squirrel.

44

45 MS. DEWHURST: Well, I guess as far as
46 presentation, it's all one issue, but as far as me presenting
47 it there's different history, I guess, is a better way to
48 phrase it.

49

50 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

1 MS. DEWHURST: The history is very different
2 between the two. On the Noatak, as most of you are aware, we
3 have the CUA, the controlled use area. And that's on the map
4 in front of you with that dark line that goes around part of
5 the Noatak. The CUA was established for the same reasons this
6 proposal was established, there was concerns about user
7 conflicts back when -- I mean back then the big discussion was
8 use of aircraft and so the CUA was established to not allow
9 aircraft use in that fall period along that Noatak River
10 corridor. Now, this proposal isn't for necessarily the Noatak
11 River corridor it's for the whole Noatak River drainage so it
12 includes that shaded area and it starts where the shaded area
13 starts which is about midway up the corridor and then goes to
14 the right. If you look on the map it's about midway up and
15 then continues on to the right and it continues quite a ways.
16 So I think Sandy's map shows it a lot better if anybody wants
17 to take a look at it now or later, it shows the Noatak
18 continues quite a ways actually, and includes the trib -- this
19 would include the tributaries going into the Noatak, the
20 various drainages going into it.

21
22 It's my understanding a lot of the concern, especially
23 with the Noatak isn't so much competition with other moose
24 hunters but it's the moose hunters are there when people are
25 trying to caribou hunt and conflicting with the caribou
26 hunting. And the people that are there aren't caribou hunting
27 they're actually hunting moose.

28
29 A couple of the concerns on the Noatak are
30 jurisdictional, sort of. We are already restricting aircraft
31 use on the lower end which is the end that's down closest to
32 the village of Noatak. The upper portion doesn't get all that
33 much aircraft use right now it's mostly floaters. They do get
34 some drop off aircraft, but from my information that we're not
35 talking about a large number of hunters that are using the
36 upper end of the Noatak that's in the Park and the Preserve and
37 clear over into Gates. There is some concern that if we would
38 close the Noatak -- what history has shown us is when the CUA
39 was created, when that one portion of the Noatak was closed to
40 aircraft there was a shift in those hunters, those hunters went
41 someplace else and it was shown that some of them did go down
42 on to the Squirrel, some of them did go down to the Kobuk. So
43 when you close one specific area, don't be disillusioned to
44 think that those people will just go away. They'll still come
45 to your area to hunt they're just going to go wherever's left.
46 So if you close the Noatak or close the Squirrel, well, then
47 they're probably still going to come to the area but they might
48 go to the Kobuk or go someplace else. Because, you know, those
49 commercial guides and the air taxi's still have to make a
50 living and they're still going to recruit and try to get folks

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1 to come up here. And so be aware that doing one thing, it kind
2 of is the domino effect, you think you're just effecting this
3 one little area but you might be effecting a much broader area
4 with your decision.

5

6 So that's just something to keep in mind when we're
7 talking about this whole thing. We're only talking about the
8 Noatak and the Squirrel but decisions we make today might
9 effect the Kobuk even though the Kobuk isn't being mentioned.
10 So that's just something to keep in the back of your mind.

11

12 That's kind of the scenario with the Noatak. With the
13 Squirrel, we're faced with a little bit different look. If you
14 look at the Squirrel, the Squirrel's primarily BLM land, the
15 Noatak's National Park Service land. On the Squirrel River, as
16 you see, the actual river corridor itself is pretty much not
17 Federal land. So closing the Squirrel River under this
18 proposal.....

19

20 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Can I get a clarification
21 here. If they takeover fisheries, will that become Federal
22 land?

23

24 MS. DEWHURST: No.

25

26 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No.

27

28 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: No?

29

30 MS. DEWHURST: No.

31

32 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: No.

33

34 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Go ahead. So it still stays
35 -- until it turns over -- because I know it's just a selection
36 right now.

37

38 MS. DEWHURST: Right.

39

40 MS. MEYERS: Right.

41

42 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: And it's not even
43 tentatively approved.

44

45 MS. DEWHURST: But we have no jurisdiction
46 until it's conveyed or eliminated off the books.

47

48 MS. MEYERS: Okay. The way that the Federal
49 fisheries proposal reads.....

50

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: But what I'm asking is.....

2

3 MS. MEYERS:BLM lands are not
4 conservation system units. So Park Service lands are, Fish and
5 Wildlife Service lands are but the only lands that BLM owns
6 that would be -- that would fall under those fisheries
7 proposals are wild and scenic rivers.

8

9 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What about on the hunting
10 part here?

11

12 MS. MEYERS: And same for wildlife.

13

14 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Even if there's -- what
15 about the selections? Does that disqualify them from Federal
16 -- from BLM administered?

17

18 MS. MEYERS: Okay. Right now it does
19 disqualify. If you have selected land, then the underlying
20 management still stays
21 with BLM but for Federally qualified subsistence hunters, that
22 is not considered Federal land. Now, those State selections
23 could move up and be tentatively approved if the State
24 prioritizes that area or they may fall back and end up as BLM
25 land. It's just, who knows what the State is going to do.

26

27 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Is there a way that we can
28 force the State to make them a priority?

29

30 MS. MEYERS: You may have your ways, I don't
31 know. But seriously, other than just talking to some of the
32 State officials.....

33

34 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So the selections could stay
35 there for an indefinite amount of time before a decision is
36 made?

37

38 MS. MEYERS: They could be there for awhile.
39 Take the NANA region, they have said publicly that they're in
40 no hurry to prioritize their NANA selections because they want
41 to wait and see what happens. And so I'm sure the State is
42 kind of feeling the same thing. But you're right, it means
43 that we have this indefinite situation for a long period of
44 time. And the State has prioritized a couple of townships in
45 the northeastern section though so.....

46

47 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Let me ask you this then, in
48 your authority as underlying manager, can you place limitations
49 on the number of people coming in, other users?

50

1 MS. MEYERS: Not at this point. And the reason
2 is that we only have a very general management plan for the
3 Squirrel River. We don't have a specific management plan that
4 would allow us to address some of those concerns. So at this
5 time, the Squirrel River is Federal public land and we don't
6 have the authority under a specific management plan to limit.

7
8 MR. GRIEST: So Title VIII is not -- so you
9 can't enforce Title VIII on Federal land on BLM land? I
10 thought Title VIII.....

11
12 MS. MEYERS: Oh, of course, of course it
13 applies.

14
15 MR. GRIEST: So their management plan
16 should.....

17
18 MS. MEYERS: If there is a shortage.

19
20 MR. GRIEST:then be able to follow
21 that.....

22
23 MS. MEYERS: That's when it can.

24
25 MR. GRIEST:scenario where you could cut
26 off other user groups to protect subsistence use.

27
28 MS. MEYERS: If there was, you know, a shortage
29 of game or fish, you bet.

30
31 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

32
33 MS. DEWHURST: But as of right now, you know,
34 in our current scenario, today, you can see the map on Page 25,
35 I guess it is, most of the river corridor, especially the river
36 corridor north of the Omar, is not -- is either State selected
37 -- it's not under the Federal jurisdiction. It's not under our
38 jurisdiction. So if we do this closure it would not apply to
39 a majority of the river corridor. It would apply to some of
40 the tributaries but to my knowledge most of those are not --
41 most of the river and the tributaries north of the Omar is not
42 navigable anyway, you can't get a boat up there unless it's a
43 really high water situation.

44
45 So the issue comes, would -- even if this proposal was
46 passed, would it do anything is kind of the question. And you
47 know, would it make any changes that are significant and it's
48 felt -- and that's why our Staff recommendation was to reject
49 -- because it was felt, at least, in the case of the Squirrel,
50 it wouldn't have any effect, even if we -- even if it was

1 passed, it wouldn't have any effect.

2

3 The bottom line is we just don't have any authority
4 right now over that river corridor under our present program
5 right now, today. And so it was felt that based on that, there
6 was no point in supporting a proposal that would do nothing --
7 pass a proposal that, you know, it's just a paper proposal that
8 wouldn't make any changes, good or bad or whatever, it wouldn't
9 do anything on the Squirrel. And that was the concern on the
10 Squirrel.

11

12 I did want to bring up, we do have a -- you were all
13 passed out a copy of a recent moose survey done at Noorvik, I
14 think it's a blue cover.

15

16 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That blue book.

17

18 MS. DEWHURST: A blue book.

19

20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You've got a blue book.

21

22 MS. DEWHURST: And just a quick summary of that
23 information. I went and -- and as long as my math is good it
24 covered 141 households, out of those 141 households, 37 -- it
25 was estimated that 37 moose were taken, 33 bulls, four cows.
26 And then when we broke it down by the area, only one person
27 reported, at least under this survey, one person reported
28 hunting on the Squirrel, everybody else was hunting on the
29 Kobuk out of those 33 moose that were taken, 32 of those were
30 on the Kobuk. Most of those were down river of Noorvik, 13
31 were down river of Noorvik, the rest were up river of Noorvik.
32 So a majority of the hunting that was done under this survey
33 was along the Kobuk River.

34

35 Times of the year, the vast majority of it was taken
36 September -- August, September was where most of the hunting --
37 when most of the hunting was going on. There was one animal
38 taken in October, one in December. But by and large, it was
39 during that early fall period, September/October -- or
40 August/September. So that's -- I know you haven't had time to
41 read this through but that's the summary when I went through
42 and did some quick math to kind of put this in a nutshell.

43

44 So this is something, I think it's important to think
45 about, like I mentioned earlier is that potentially closing the
46 Noatak or closing the Squirrel could have effect on the Kobuk.

47

48 MR. GRIEST: How many numbers are we talking
49 about though?

50

1 MS. DEWHURST: How many numbers of sport
2 hunters or how many.....

3
4 MR. GRIEST: The numbers of hunters from the
5 Noatak area might move to the Squirrel or Selawik or.....

6
7 MS. DEWHURST: I don't know, Dave, do you have
8 any idea how many number are up in the Park as far as sport
9 hunters or guides?

10
11 MR. GRIEST: I'm trying to see if the concern
12 is real or not.

13
14 MS. DEWHURST: When I talked to Lois Dolly-
15 Molly, she was acting like we were talking -- it sounded like
16 just a couple of guides. It was mainly dropping off floating
17 parties and it sounded like we weren't talking very many.

18
19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: That's not the case. I know
20 there's hunters in the Aggie, they drop them off there, yeah.

21
22 MS. DEWHURST: I was going to say, now, some of
23 the tributaries, now the Kelly and the Aggie and some of these
24 tributaries get more use. But the main branch of the Noatak
25 doesn't get that much but some of the tributaries do get more
26 use. We don't have firm numbers on exactly how many people
27 would be displaced. Probably a minimum estimate would be a
28 half dozen, on the upper end, 20 or 30. I don't know, it might
29 be more than that. But the bottom line is we don't have good
30 numbers for exactly how many. And the State system of harvest
31 reporting doesn't break that out real well as far as exactly
32 where people got their animals and to say exactly how many
33 people would be displaced and where they would go next.

34
35 We're just mainly -- the main thing I'm drawing on
36 there is history and that it was shown that when the CUA was
37 created there was a displacement of hunters and there's no
38 reason to think that that wouldn't occur again if this closure
39 occurred. You know, if the people want to come up here, they
40 want to come up here, they'll find a place to hunt. And you
41 know, if I'm an air taxi operator I'm going to try to stay in
42 business so I'm going to try to -- if you won't let me go here,
43 I'm going to try to find some other place to put them. You
44 know, that's just kind of human nature. You know the guy's
45 going to try to keep making a living as an air taxi.

46
47 Now, some of this might be better resolved with the
48 user conflict conference or whatever you want to call it, the
49 meeting that's going to be in early April, I believe. Where
50 we're actually going to be meeting with the air taxi's and the

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1 guides and talking this whole thing out and the big picture
2 out. And that might be a better forum to deal with it.

3

4 MR. GRIEST: How are we going to answer to the
5 people that asked us to close those areas thought? I mean
6 they're the ones that are impacted. They're the ones that are
7 asking -- are concerned about it. What are we going to say to
8 them?

9

10 MS. DEWHURST: Well, the Squirrel River, even
11 if we closed it, it's not going to -- it's -- I kind of hate to
12 do it because it sends out a false image. It makes it sound
13 like we are doing something and we really aren't. You know, it
14 makes it -- oh, yeah, we passed this thing and we closed it,
15 well, it has no effect. So we're just blowing smoke basically
16 on the Squirrel if we pass the Squirrel.

17

18 The Noatak would have some effect. For sure it
19 probably would close out some hunters. The question is, are
20 you going to like the effect? Is the effect going to be what
21 you want, namely that they might go down to the Kobuk or might
22 go someplace -- or go down to the Squirrel or go someplace else

23

24 MR. STONEY: Mr. Chairman.

25

26 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Raymond.

27

28 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman.

29

30 MR. STONEY: Mr. Chairman, I got a

31 question.....

32

33 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Hold it Bill. Raymond.

34

35 MR. STONEY: I've got a question. Did you say
36 there's no count for the Squirrel and the Noatak, still no
37 survey count?

38

39 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: They did have a survey count
40 and I don't have the numbers here in front of me.

41

42 Bill, you had a point. Let me back to you, Raymond,
43 here just a second.

44

45 MR. STONEY: I got two questions to ask. Then
46 the second question is, you know, a year ago, if you wanted to
47 be a guide, you'd have to have like a commercial pilot license
48 to do that, is that what effective, Donna?

49

50 MS. DEWHURST: You don't have to have a

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1 commercial pilot's license to be a commercial guide.

2

3 MR. STONEY: I know that came.....

4

5 MR. SPIRITES: I think there was a change in FAA
6 policy.

7

8 MR. STONEY: Yes.

9

10 MR. SPRITES: That in order to.....

11

12 MS. DEWHURST: Oh, Department.....

13

14 MR. SPRITES:you have to be a 135.

15

16 MR. STONEY: 135, yes. Yeah, my question is
17 the count of the moose, both Noatak and Squirrel?

18

19 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, we did have numbers there.
20 The numbers -- we do have some numbers, there was a recent one
21 on the Squirrel, let me see if I can find the numbers.

22

23 Yeah, it's Page 28, I'm just trying to find the
24 specific numbers looking through here.

25

26 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Page what?

27

28 MS. DEWHURST: There it is. An estimate of
29 1,292 to 1,781 moose along the Squirrel.

30

31 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: One thousand what?

32

33 MS. DEWHURST: Basically 1,300 to 1,800 moose
34 to round it off. That was the estimate as of 1998. The
35 feeling on the biology end of it, I really haven't mentioned it
36 because it's really, in my mind, not so much an issue. The
37 biologists feel that the health of the moose populations is
38 overall stable.

39

40 The only real problem we're having at all is with calf
41 survival. There -- we are seeing some pretty broad variations
42 from year to year in how the moose calf survive. You know,
43 there are a lot of predators up here brought in through
44 following the Western Arctic Caribou Herd, you know, we have
45 pretty good populations of wolves, bears, other things, that
46 will also eat moose calves. And you throw in a bad winter with
47 that and it can knock moose calf survival down. That seems to
48 be the one issue that the biologists do talk about. But
49 harvest doesn't usually effect calf survival. Harvest is
50 effecting the survival of your big bulls and the things that

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1 people are hunting. So harvest really doesn't have any effect
2 on that. You know, if we're really concerned about calf
3 survival we'd have to talk about predators and be talking a
4 whole different story. But that's my understanding of the
5 biology, that generally the feeling is the moose population
6 right now is stable in the area.

7

8 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Susan.

9

10 MS. GEORGETTE: Just so that I understand this,
11 Donna, are you saying that on this BLM land here that there's
12 virtually no moose taken by anyone or by non.....

13

14 MS. DEWHURST: No. I'm saying that we don't
15 have any jurisdiction on the Squirrel.

16

17 MS. GEORGETTE: You do on these BLM lands
18 though, isn't that what.....

19

20 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, but on the perimeter, but
21 the issue has been between the -- the conflict between the
22 floaters and the fly-in hunters. I guess I should have
23 clarified that. And that the fly-in hunt -- the floaters can't
24 get beyond the Omar and the fly-in hunters north of the Omar --
25 well, everything north of the Omar we don't have any
26 jurisdiction in the river corridor so.....

27

28 MS. GEORGETTE: In the river but.....

29

30 MS. DEWHURST:they still can fly in other
31 places. They can get on -- you know, there's little puddles
32 and things and sand bars and places people can land. But it's
33 not places most of the subsistence hunters are using.

34

35 MS. GEORGETTE: Right. Well, I understand that
36 part, I guess. It just seems to me that I guess I understood
37 some of local people's concern to be that the moose being taken
38 up there are impacting the moose available down here really.
39 And it just seemed that the way you were talking it made it
40 sound like it would have no effect but it would have an effect,
41 this proposal, because there are areas in this BLM land that
42 people are getting moose who are not Federally qualified users
43 right now.

44

45 MS. DEWHURST: Uh-huh, that is true.

46

47 MS. GEORGETTE: That's correct. So it's not --
48 so I guess that seems misleading to say that this proposal,
49 even if it passes would have no effect because it would have an
50 effect. It would have an effect on the people hunting there

1 who are not locals and it could have an effect if you believe
2 that those people are taking moose that would come down here.
3 That it would have an effect. It's not as if there's.....

4

5 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, it could effect moose
6 movement. And from what I understood -- I wish we had the
7 biologist here but from what I've understood the moose movement
8 though is more from between the Noatak there's a -- I wish this
9 had topography on the map but it doesn't, but coming more from
10 the Noatak down toward the Squirrel. From what I was told,
11 talking to Jim, actually, it didn't sound like there was so
12 much of this movement down the Squirrel drainage as much as
13 from the Noatak down toward the Squirrel.

14

15 MS. GEORGETTE: Yeah, I don't know myself. It
16 just seems like there was debate among local people and the
17 biologists about where these moose are moving.

18

19 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, I see.

20

21 MR. GRIEST: And I don't know myself.

22

23 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Sandy.

24

25 MR. RABINOWITCH: Thank you. Just a small
26 point and I don't think this is in contention. But the
27 proposal as written, includes the entire Noatak drainage and as
28 Donna said, the Noatak drainage reaches well up into Gates of
29 the Arctic National Park. I checked on about how many river
30 miles of the Noatak drainage there are from the boundary of the
31 Preserve, the lighter colored green, into the Gates of the
32 Arctic, but the darker green, and it's about 75 river miles up
33 to the headwaters. So I simply point out that the upper 75
34 miles of the Noatak drainage is already closed to sport hunters
35 because of its Park status, it's open to subsistence users and
36 resident zones and so on.

37

38 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Thank you. Donna.

39

40 MS. DEWHURST: Staff recommendation is to
41 oppose this proposal on three points. The first is the issue
42 of the Squirrel River and the main concern, at least, we've
43 heard so far has been the issue of the river corridor, and
44 because this -- our jurisdiction doesn't cover the river
45 corridor very well. That's the first point on why we're -- the
46 Staff recommendation is to oppose it.

47

48 The second is listed and I'm on Page 28 and 29, for
49 those of you who want to follow along. Section .815 of ANILCA
50 states that if we're going to restrict non-subsistence users,

1 sport hunters basically, there has to be either a biological
2 reason for it -- for the conservation of healthy populations or
3 to continue subsistence uses of such populations, i.e., a
4 conflict. So it's felt the health is not an issue. The health
5 -- the populations are considered stable at this time so that
6 can't be used.

7

8 So then the only issue becomes, is there -- would this
9 proposal help the subsistence hunters? And the concern there
10 -- we already talked about the Squirrel, and on the Noatak it
11 was a concern that how much subsistence hunting is actually
12 going on in the Park that it would make a difference. And that
13 the lower portion of the Noatak's already covered under the
14 CUA, the portion along the village. And as Bill mentioned, if
15 we closed the upper portion, some of those hunters could still
16 go down to the lower portion, they can't use aircraft but they
17 can certainly float it. And it might actually increase
18 conflicts along the lower portion of the Noatak.

19

20 The main thing closing the Noatak would do, as Sandy
21 mentioned, we got one end of it already closed because it's
22 Park land, the other end of it's already restricted because of
23 the CUA, so the main little strip we're going to be dealing
24 with is in between and the tributaries, like you mentioned, the
25 Kelly and some of those, and the Aggie and some of those other
26 tributaries. The question is, is that where the conflicts
27 occurring or are the conflicts -- the problems with subsistence
28 users occurring more on the lower portion of the Noatak down by
29 the village where we don't have any jurisdiction and actually
30 closing the upper part might make the lower part worse. So
31 that was the other -- the second point.

32

33 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: It won't because NANA
34 doesn't allow any sport hunting on its lands. So there's not
35 going to be displaced down river, I can guarantee you that. I
36 just want to make that point clear.

37

38 MS. DEWHURST: Okay. But, of course, that
39 doesn't mean they couldn't be displaced to the Kobuk or some
40 other portion -- other rivers, which is the other concern. So
41 those are the two main issues and that's the justification of
42 the Staff recommendation.

43

44 We did have public comments. Barb. We have a whole
45 slew of public comments and State comments.

46

47 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I've got them here, the
48 public comments here.

49

50 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, but there's a

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1 couple.....

2

3 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Does anybody have any
4 questions for Donna here before we go any further?

5

6 MS. DEWHURST: Keep in mind, too, that, you
7 know, we're treating both -- like you mentioned, we're treating
8 both together, you wouldn't necessarily in your recommendation
9 have to treat both together. You could have one.....

10

11 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Well, that's what I was
12 going to say. We can -- whatever decision we make here we can
13 make it on the proposal as a whole that would, in fact, decide
14 on Squirrel and the Noatak or we can take them separately.

15

16 So what I think we should do is break for lunch and
17 then come back and decide what to do because, you can see that
18 map over there -- even if we did pass this proposal to allow
19 just subsistence use, they would still be able to in the white
20 part we couldn't stop that. Anybody can come in and hunt in
21 this white part here. There's no way this proposal would
22 effect that, okay. On some parts of the tributaries of the
23 Squirrel, this part here where the State has selections, we got
24 that clarified this morning, under the Federal regulations even
25 if we passed the proposal we couldn't stop them from bringing
26 people in or other people coming in to hunt.

27

28 So the only place it would have an effect would be in
29 the yellow areas here and this part, that's on the moose, what
30 we're talking about.

31

32 For a little bit of history here, what we got last
33 spring was a resolution from Noorvik requesting our Advisory
34 Council to recommend closing these areas to sport hunting and
35 allow just for subsistence use. When we got that resolution
36 from Noorvik, the IRA Council in Noorvik, we did ask for a
37 proposal to be submitted to the Federal Board so that's what
38 we're talking about now. We haven't taken any formal action on
39 it yet on what we want to do. So we wanted to have the meeting
40 here for that purpose, too, because of the impact on the
41 Squirrel River with the airplane hunters and guides and
42 outfitters coming into the area.

43

44 But according to the people from BLM and the Park
45 Service, it will only have an effect on the yellow and this
46 part here if we pass it.

47

48 Let's break for lunch and we'll come back at 1:30.

49

50 (Off record - 12:20 p.m.)

1 (On record - 1:30 p.m.)

2

3 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I'm going to call the
4 meeting back to order. We were in a deep discussion on the
5 proposal, what number was it anyway?

6

7 MR. GRIEST: 49.

8

9 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: 49. We heard the Staff
10 report. So at this time what I think I'll do is ask for action
11 on it and put it on the floor for debate and take action.
12 Helen.

13

14 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Before you do that we need
15 to just say something about the summary of public comments just
16 to follow our process.

17

18 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I'm going to get the public
19 comments after we put it on the floor.

20

21 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay, and ADF&G.

22

23 MS. DEWHURST: But we have to do it before you
24 vote.

25

26 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Oh, okay, excuse me. Let's
27 back track here a second. So you have given the biological and
28 socio cultural analysis, we've heard that. We are now at
29 ADF&G, agency comments and data.

30

31 MS. DEWHURST: I could just read them or.....

32

33 MS. GEORGETTE: I don't have anything to
34 nothing to say on this.

35

36 MS. DEWHURST: Okay. Well, the Alaska
37 Department of Fish & Game opposes. The action is not supported
38 by substantial evidence. There's no biological justification
39 for limiting moose hunting on the Noatak the Squirrel River
40 Drainages.

41

42 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: It's on page 76.

43

44 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah.

45

46 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: The last page of Tab S.

47

48 MS. DEWHURST: The entire Squirrel and Noatak
49 River Drainages are included however much of the moose hunting
50 by non-local residents occurs in the Upper Squirrel and the

1 northern tributaries of the Noatak areas difficult to access
2 and not used much by local residents. User conflicts in these
3 areas are rare. That's their first point.

4

5 Their second point is the proposal would have no impact
6 on non-local hunters pursuing caribou or other wildlife
7 species, which is true, this does only apply to non-local moose
8 hunters. So our current proposal would not limit caribou --
9 out of state caribou hunters or non-local caribou hunters.

10

11 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Excuse me, it's on Page 30.
12 ADF&G comments are on Page 30.

13

14 MS. DEWHURST: The third point was closing
15 portions of Unit 23 to non-Federally qualified users probably
16 would displace some of the use to other parts of the unit and
17 potentially intensify user conflicts in these areas. So those
18 are the three points the Alaska Department of Fish and Game
19 made.

20

21 Somebody did come up to me at the break and just asked
22 me to say one more thing on our half and just to remind
23 everybody that this proposal would effect local guides, too.
24 You can't segregate the non-local versus the local guides. So
25 if we close it off we close it off to all guides.

26

27 And then Barb, did you want to do public comments?

28

29 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Is that moose?

30

31 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah.

32

33 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: There are two letters that
34 were written. One was by Phil Driver and the other one was by
35 Ron Aldridge, and then there were 79 form letters. And I don't
36 know if you want me to read the form letters or not. There's
37 79 of the same thing, I can just read one.

38

39 MR. GRIEST: One only.

40

41 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: They all go to the Federal
42 Subsistence Board in care of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
43 Service. Attention Barbara Armstrong and my phone numbers.
44 This is in regards to Proposal 49. I am a Federal taxpayer and
45 a U.S. citizen. This proposal angers me because the facts are
46 that the Native population now has the best moose hunting in
47 Unit 23 and the Native selected lands which I can't hunt both
48 on the Squirrel River and the Noatak River and drainages.
49 Natives, local hunters can now hunt from August 1 through March
50 31, eight months for moose. I can hunt for moose September 1

1 through 15 on the Noatak if I have a boat, no airplane,
2 September 1 through 20 on the Squirrel River and the rest of
3 Unit 23. I have never even seen a local hunter on either river
4 where I have hunted.

5
6 I feel that the real issue is to eliminate the non-
7 resident hunter who's Federal tax dollar is supporting the
8 Federal lands in Alaska and the U.S.

9
10 I sincerely hope that reality is looked at in this
11 issue as I enjoy the outdoors and spend my recreation dollars
12 for the whole of wildlife and recreations.

13
14 Thank you. That was signed by 79 people. And most of
15 these people are from like, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas,
16 Florida, five from Soldotna, one from Anchorage, four from
17 Sterling, one from Georgia and one from Ohio.

18
19 And there's one letter from Phil Driver opposing the
20 proposal, somewhere in here. Anyway there's one from Phil
21 Driver, he opposed the proposal, too.

22
23 And if you guys would give me a little bit more time
24 here to look for it I will find it.

25
26 Phil Driver says, the choice moose hunting for other
27 than subsistence hunters would be the early season. Beyond the
28 Noatak corridor and in the middle to upper reaches of the
29 tributary streams which are inaccessible to power boats, you
30 see no local hunters during the early fall hunting period.

31
32 And the other one from Ron Aldridge in Soldotna, he
33 opposes. I have guided in the Squirrel River drainage for the
34 last 10 years and never had a conflict with another hunter.
35 The river from the confluence with the Omar upstream is not
36 navigable and the only access is by airplane. There is no
37 shortage of moose and the bull/cow ratio is higher than it has
38 been in the last six years. From talking with local people, it
39 is my understanding that only a few people wish to keep others
40 out of this area.

41
42 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Barb, is that letter -- did
43 I hear right and say they've hunted in this area, that form
44 letter?

45
46 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Pardon?

47
48 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Did that form letter say
49 they'd hunted in the Squirrel River area?

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: That's what they're saying
2 is the.....

3
4 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So it points out the fact
5 that I want to bring out the user conflict issue is that 79
6 people were here last year.

7
8 MS. MEYERS: It doesn't have to be last year,
9 seriously, it could have been over a series of years, I think,
10 just to make that point.

11
12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Well, I'm going to -- they
13 would have said they were here a few years ago. I'm going to
14 assume that they were here last year, they signed the letter
15 this year. So there's an argument on both sides here. But I'm
16 going to assume that, for the issue of user conflict that the
17 numbers that we talked about as far as user conflict in the
18 area, that substantiates it, the letters that we got.

19
20 That's just a point I wanted to make. Who else do we
21 need to hear from? Okay. At this time I'll open it to
22 comments from the public. Anyone wish to make comments
23 regarding the proposal, if you would state your name and -- do
24 you want him to go to that mic over there or.....

25
26 COURT REPORTER: Just talk in any mic.

27
28 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN:just move it over or
29 something if you want to -- if somebody wants to speak.

30
31 COURT REPORTER: That's perfect.

32
33 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anyone wish to make any
34 comments?

35
36 MR. JACKSON, SR.: Those two guys must have
37 stayed in my cabin a couple of years ago, a couple of summers
38 ago. Maybe one of them wrote that letter. They stayed in my
39 cabin and hunt from there. What's the name of that guy again?

40
41 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Phil Driver and Ron
42 Aldridge.

43
44 MR. JACKSON, SR.: Yeah, those guys from
45 Soldotna.

46
47 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah.

48
49 MR. JACKSON, SR.: Because Nelson took them up
50 there from Kotzebue.

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So does anyone wish to make
2 any comments.

3
4 MR. SHIRK: Larry Shirk, Kiana Lodge. I've
5 been taking people up to the -- as far as the confluence of the
6 Omar River on unguided hunts and dropping them off and they've
7 been floating up with inflatables. To the best of my
8 knowledge, none of these hunters have ever taken a moose out of
9 there. Strictly -- they were all strictly caribou hunts.

10
11 Last year, I believe I took in no more than four
12 parties in there. Although, we did provide food and lodging
13 for two other sets of people that came out of the Squirrel that
14 had been dropped off by airplanes from Kotzebue and both
15 parties did not have moose. So -- and they said they enjoyed
16 the Squirrel River up there and the reason they did was because
17 there was no conflict with any local hunters. And that they
18 didn't see anybody. That's a comment I'd like to make.

19
20 And so I don't push for moose hunts up there because
21 the chances of them guys getting a moose are pretty well --
22 because most of them will have a moose tag because you down
23 grade a -- a moose tag is like \$400 for the State for a non-
24 resident and then if you don't get a moose, you can -- if you
25 don't see a moose and decide you want to take a caribou,
26 they'll usually down grade that caribou tag and take a caribou.
27 This has happened a number of times but I've never -- never had
28 to transport any moose out there for anybody.

29
30 I've taken moose out of there myself that I shot but
31 I'm a subsistence hunter.

32
33 I oppose this proposal because I think that it's going
34 to -- if that happens, it's going to run in conflict with me,
35 it will shut me down. And hey, we're bringing money into the
36 region, you know. When I make money it stays here. Dorsey
37 gets most of it on my gas but it stays here it doesn't go out
38 of the region. So I -- you know.....

39
40 Just to add another comment on to that, I think what we
41 -- what we should start doing in the future is we should -- we
42 should start considering training our young people to become
43 registered guides so this problem -- I mean there won't be any
44 user conflict. If we have -- the lady stated over there that
45 the local guides/outside guides, you can't discriminate, but
46 still if we have guides in this area we -- they'd be from this
47 area up here and I think that a lot of our local kids here,
48 they're hunters. They've hunted for thousands of years,
49 they're natural hunters. But you know, if we could train them
50 to be in compliance with State and Federal regs, the money that

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1 they're getting for caribou and moose hunts right now is
2 hitting three and a half to \$4,000 apiece, bear is running
3 between eight and 18,000. That just came out of the Anchorage
4 paper on -- when they had the Safari Club International
5 Convention in Reno.

6

7 That would be -- that money, if it came into our region
8 here, would be a substantial amount for our economic --
9 economic development. And I think it just -- I'm just making
10 that point so you could keep this in the back of your mind that
11 a couple of years ago I wrote a letter to NANA requesting such
12 -- that we bring up such a program and maybe get permits to
13 hunt on NANA land and I never did receive an answer. Maybe
14 this is something we should look for in the future. But if we
15 could set up some sort of a plan, we could set up some sort of
16 apprentice training plan, I'd be willing to participate in it
17 and start teaching these kids how to cape out trophies.

18

19 And a lot of these people can't -- when they come up
20 here and they can't afford to ship that meat out and a lot of
21 -- a lot of this meat could be left here in the community for
22 the people that can't hunt.

23

24 Also I've noticed, too, in the last couple years that
25 we've been having people inquiry, is there anybody in Kiana or
26 these villages that would like to set up a meat cutting -- a
27 meat cutting venture or something, where they could get paid to
28 butcher their caribou when they bring them in so they could
29 package them up and take some of it out and the rest -- the
30 rest could go to the community and it would be taken care of
31 properly like it should and the meat wouldn't be wasted, it
32 wouldn't spoil. And not only that, the kid, whoever did that,
33 would be our local butcher and he'd probably be able to make
34 some money because some of them people don't -- they'd rather
35 not handle it.

36

37 Thank you.

38

39 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Thank you, Larry. Does
40 anybody have any questions for Larry. Bert.

41

42 MR. SHIRK: Bert.

43

44 MR. GRIEST: Would you consider maybe cutting
45 down the impact that this is having on Noatak, basically, and
46 I'm not sure about the Squirrel? But I know there's been some
47 incidences that Noatak where, you know, gas is going for 3.75
48 a gallon and people go up, you know, and they run into some
49 other hunters and there is some -- some user conflict there in
50 some ways. Maybe -- maybe instead of outright opposing it

1 altogether, sending that kind of message, maybe the goal ought
2 to be that we cut down the impact. Would you support something
3 like that rather than outright, you know, wham?

4

5 MR. SHIRK: I think rather than shut it down,
6 I think the State has already made moves towards these hunting
7 proposals like for moose. They've restricted the size and
8 they've also restricted the time. Like Phil Driver stated in
9 his letter, from the 1st of September to the 20th, the non-
10 resident can hunt where us local hunters it opens on the 1st of
11 August, for a resident.

12

13 And what do we want to do, keep putting restrictions on
14 everything, I don't think so. I think they've done enough.

15

16 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anybody else have any other
17 questions.

18

19 MR. ASHBY: I do.

20

21 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Ricky.

22

23 MR. ASHBY: Have you had any problem with
24 trash?

25

26 MR. SHIRK: Yeah, with local people. I'm
27 always picking up trash. I got my trash bags with me all the
28 time. I pick up trash, yeah. This is just -- we all know this
29 here in Kiana, just around the bend where everybody -- where
30 all our local people to go to hunt -- I mean go to fish in the
31 summer time, that river is always trashed. Every day when I
32 stop there with clients I got to pick it up. That's at
33 Soonatok (ph), just around the bend.

34

35 MR. ASHBY: The reason I asked that is back
36 home, sometimes you can find a whole camp where the people,
37 they just leave everything. Just plastic, trash.

38

39 MR. SHIRK: I require everybody bring their
40 trash out and I'll usually get a good size bag when they come
41 out, even the floaters, they have to bring their trash out
42 because I don't want to go back up and have to clean up after
43 them.

44

45 MR. ASHBY: I think it's the non-local, non-
46 State people that leave all this trash, and that's getting to
47 be a real conflict. My question would kind of also be to the
48 Federal, how would they be able to put that to -- like if they
49 going to take something in to take it out, styrofoam, plastic,
50 aluminum.

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Before you answer that,
2 let's get back to the public comments, but keep that in mind we
3 need an answer on that pretty soon.

4
5 Any other public comments? Anybody else want to say
6 anything about the proposal?

7
8 MR. AREY: Yeah.

9
10 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Can you move that mic down
11 to Joe here.

12
13 MR. AREY: Joe Arey from Noatak. Larry's
14 talking about his part where he makes money to take people out
15 but he never asked the people that go out for subsistence and
16 not go out to make money. So you're going to have conflicts
17 here between the people that are making money and who are
18 subsistence local people. See you have two different subgroups
19 here we're going against. Because him, not only him, but Phil
20 Driver and that guy from Anchorage, they're guides -- we're
21 going against them but we never get the comments from the local
22 people on different villages. You're just getting it here from
23 who's already here.

24
25 If you ask the people in different villages what they
26 think about it, then you'll have more input than you'll know
27 which way to go. I mean we can't just take -- yeah, I can go
28 with him, too, you know. I'd be opposed to that. He went out
29 -- he said he's trying to get NANA to open up NANA land so they
30 could hunt their moose on NANA lands, if we do that on NANA
31 lands, we're going to have all kinds of people coming in and
32 then you'll have lots of complaints.

33
34 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Joe, let me ask you this,
35 what do you think about the proposal effecting the Noatak?

36
37 MR. AREY: The Noatak right now, we don't have
38 that much problem with it because we're not getting that many
39 people from -- from different parts of the state or the Lower
40 48. Because where we hunt moose is right there, we got our
41 zone, our.....

42
43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: The controlled use area?

44
45 MR. AREY: Yeah. And that one -- that
46 controlled use area is helping us out because right now we
47 don't have -- I never here no complaints about that in my
48 village.

49
50 But you go here, like to Kiana and they don't have that

1 and they're the ones that's getting all of the feedback here.
2 From our village that come up here to Kobuk and they're getting
3 what we were getting in our village before we have that zone.
4 So I think it's up to the people here in Kiana to do something
5 about it that they think would be right.

6

7 I mean if you get a village as a whole, all the people,
8 and not just one or two people that are against it, because the
9 people as a whole are going to vote in a different direction or
10 they'll go with it, either way.

11

12 MR. GRIEST: Mr. Chairman.

13

14 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Bert.

15

16 MR. GRIEST: It seems like this is something to
17 consider. Well, one of the things that really is in reality,
18 too, though is even if we try to do anything on this one it's
19 not going to effect the river, the real effect it's going is
20 it's completely closed on the Noatak, then the -- then the
21 effect that the Noorvik IRA is trying to gain is not going to
22 be there. It's going to have a conflict effect. It's going to
23 put more pressure on the Squirrel River because it closes off
24 that portion of the Noatak, it's the Noatak resident that just
25 testified to say that, you know, maybe the conflicts are not as
26 extreme as what I had heard from other people complaining.

27

28 Then it seems to me, I would be inclined to oppose this
29 as well, basically. Then if it needs to come from Noatak area
30 about the Noatak River then let them propose something.

31

32 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Let me get back to the
33 public. Anybody else want to say anything on the proposal?

34

35 Why don't we go on to the agenda item, that's the
36 Regional Council deliberations and actions. But I would like
37 to point out that as we talk here, I'll still leave it open to
38 the public to make any comments.

39

40 So at this point I think I'll ask for deliberation on
41 the proposal itself and then we can make a recommendation.

42

43 Dave.

44

45 MR. SPIRTE: Yeah, if I could make one comment
46 Mr. Chairman. Dave Spirtes, National Park Service. I guess I
47 just wanted to make the point that in the Noatak National
48 Preserve, there are some possibilities for helping to address
49 this issue. We can regulate commercial activity and create
50 conditions so that we can determine the amount of activity. In

1 fact, we're supposed to do planning and determine what amount
2 of guiding is necessary and appropriate so that we can strike
3 a balance between that activity and subsistence.

4

5 We had a new Concessions Bill passed about four months
6 ago, I do have a copy of that Thomas Bill for you, Mr.
7 Chairman. It's a fairly long lengthy bill and we're still
8 trying to -- the regulation implementing it haven't been
9 passed. We have a moratorium on new -- new contracts, but we
10 are planning later this spring to start some public scoping
11 meetings to determine what level of commercial service is
12 necessary and appropriate. When the regulations pass it is our
13 intent then with local input to try to develop controls on both
14 guiding and transporting. And there's also the potential in
15 that for possibly addressing some of Mr. Shirk's concerns about
16 seeing if there's some way to provide for training programs to
17 get local people involved in guiding.

18

19 It's not an immediate solution. My guess is it will
20 take one to two years but it is a solution that we can start
21 working towards that offers some potential for dealing with
22 some of these issues.

23

24 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Would it effect all Federal
25 lands or just Parks?

26

27 MR. SPIRTE: That particular Bill just effects
28 National Park lands. In our case, since Kobuk Valley, of
29 course, is closed to sport hunting it wouldn't apply there, so
30 in our case it would just be Noatak National Preserve.

31

32 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, thanks, Dave.

33

34 Okay, what I'm hearing is that the Noatak, with the
35 controlled use area in place, the areas that the Noatak people
36 hunt is pretty well taken care of where they hunt moose. But
37 whether or not we pass this proposal on the Noatak part,
38 wouldn't have any effect on the subsistence user of moose in
39 the Noatak. Am I correct in saying that Bill?

40

41 MR. KNAUER: (Nods affirmatively)

42

43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, Ricky.

44

45 MR. ASHBY: I guess I'm kind of.....

46

47 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I mean that's what I'm
48 hearing. That's what I heard from Joe, okay.

49

50 Now, for the Squirrel. According to the Staff report,

1 even if we do pass it it's really not going to have that much
2 effect because of the area that the State has selected, that
3 would still be open to bring in -- to allow the sport hunters
4 to bring in the sport hunting people or for the outfitters to
5 bring in more sport hunting people. So it really wouldn't have
6 that much effect on the Squirrel River except on some areas
7 that -- on the far reaches.

8

9 So my inclination right now, just based on what I've
10 heard, I wish we'd have heard from some more members of the
11 community in Kiana. We did -- even though we did get the
12 resolution from the Noorvik IRA, I would assume that if they
13 really wanted it passed they would have been here. So without
14 that much support to get it passed and the reasons that if we
15 do pass it that we would displace more people to other areas in
16 the unit, for instance, in the Selawik, in the Buckland and
17 Deering area where they do have some limited resources also,
18 but I know they got a lot of moose in the Tag, it's just
19 another way of moving people to a different place and the same
20 people would be coming back.

21

22 However, I still think that we have a user conflict
23 situation in a sense that what our people are generally
24 concerned about are the migration patterns and the time of the
25 caribou, which is the most used resource that our people use.
26 I think if we can work some regulations in place that would not
27 take away more time but schedule a little bit later for -- to
28 allow the other activities would help in taking care of the
29 problem that our local people have about allowing the first
30 bunch of caribou to pass by. That way the other -- the herd
31 just keeps coming whether there's people or not.

32

33 So I'm kind of inclined to go along with the Staff
34 recommendation in not passing this at this time. Now, I'm not
35 truly convinced that the count that they did is accurate. As
36 far as I can see they used some kind of scientific method and
37 counted only 350 moose and then multiplied different areas to
38 come up with 1,300 to 1,800. Now, I'm not convinced of that
39 method. I did fly -- they did count in October and I had an
40 opportunity to go out in November and I think I counted 120
41 something back there. There was two airplanes. We went out
42 and just checked around ourselves. And, you know, they told me
43 that the moose move around, and I said, I know they move
44 around, you know, but how can you let a thousand moose move in
45 one month.

46

47 I'm not convinced of the count that's what I'm saying,
48 the counts on the moose. With that I think I'll end my
49 comments and hear from the rest of the Councilmembers. Who
50 wanted to go first?

1 Ricky.

2

3 MR. ASHBY: Maybe I can say from the past, I
4 remember I had asked for help from the Council one time when we
5 had a real big drop on moose but it -- you know, we could see
6 the difference from the moose when they dropped and that time
7 I had asked that they kind of tried to close it down for moose
8 because they were going down too fast. And we were seeing dead
9 animals during the winter that year because they were young and
10 a lot of the older moose were already shot down. And so we had
11 a hard winter. And when it happened that time, we need to
12 sustain those moose that were still around because we were just
13 in the part where sports hunting was really picking up and they
14 were getting all over, it was before the controlled use area
15 was put on or in effect.

16

17 But if the Noorvik and Kiana and all these villages, if
18 they decide to see that their moose is declining, I'd rather go
19 with what the villages say because they're the ones that are
20 out there and they see the decline if there's a decline. And
21 I can tell them that if there's real sports hunting from
22 outside they really know it too because if you go up in Noatak
23 right about September, across the River you can almost see the
24 other hunters, four or five, on the other side, just that way
25 -- in that area right there and I never really see the ones
26 inside the Kelly and in Kugururok, but I always see airplanes
27 all the way to October before it freezes here. They're not
28 coming from Kotzebue they're coming straight from Fairbanks or
29 I don't know where they're coming but they're going right over
30 from the mountains and just coming down and landing over there.

31

32 But they will begin to notice and if you go up to the
33 Upper Noatak during that time there's people up there because
34 that controlled use area is up to the -- you will see them.
35 And they're looking for both sheep, bear or moose. And on this
36 I'd rather go with whatever the people in the Kobuk say, I'd
37 have to go with what they -- if they decide to, you know, go
38 with -- if they decide to go with the Noorvik on that moose.

39

40 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Thank you, Ricky. Raymond.

41

42 MR. STONEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Noorvik
43 is aware of this meeting happening in Kiana about their
44 resolution, right?

45

46 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yes.

47

48 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

49

50 MR. STONEY: They are aware of it?

1 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh. (Affirmative)

2

3 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yes.

4

5 MR. STONEY: Mr. Chairman, the Squirrel River,
6 I don't know how to decide that. You know, it's been a very,
7 very strong resolution what they wrote last fall. But like you
8 said, I don't think it makes any difference from now if we keep
9 that -- table that resolution for another year or so and then
10 see what happens for next year. If we think there are too many
11 sport hunters going out to the Squirrel and all, then we could
12 bring that up to the Noorvik IRA and then go from there.

13

14 And then like you said, I'm not completely satisfied
15 with the counts, what they just gave us. And like I said, it's
16 just a guess count. If you go out there and count now -- take
17 out an airplane right now, you'll count 50 moose just in a mile
18 radius of here. You'll see them.

19

20 But anyway, Noorvik resolution, they supported it 100
21 percent last fall but since they aren't here to support the
22 resolution is a pretty hard decision to make. Like for
23 Squirrel, I cannot -- I got nothing against the sport hunting
24 or any activity that goes on because of the public land.

25

26 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

27

28 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Thank you, Raymond. Let me
29 ask this, what would happen if we just table this thing -- this
30 issue? It sits in the shelf?

31

32 MS. DEWHURST: It would still be discussed.
33 Depending on -- it's not going to be a consent agenda, though,
34 because the State's opinion wouldn't go along with your -- I
35 don't know, Willie, if you're familiar with that consent agenda
36 process they started last year where everybody agreed all the
37 way down the line, then they'd put those in a special kind of
38 pot and they could go through them very quickly have a whole
39 pile of proposals. But because the State is going to oppose
40 this, it wouldn't fall in that category. So even though you
41 said defer, let's say.....

42

43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Can't we.....

44

45 MS. DEWHURST:it would still be
46 discussed.....

47

48 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What about if we.....

49

50 MS. DEWHURST:by the Staff.....

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN:deferred it
2 indefinitely?

3
4 MS. DEWHURST: It has to -- I think it comes up
5 every year, doesn't it if it's deferred?

6
7 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Bill.

8
9 MR. KNAUER: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Your
10 recommendation will go before the Board, in fact, you'll be
11 presenting it. And the Board then -- whatever action the Board
12 takes is the disposition. The Board has the same options you
13 do to adopt, adopt with modifications, reject or table or
14 defer.

15
16 They could choose to defer it for a year, you know,
17 based on your recommendations. You could recommend rejection,
18 the Board could reject and then the proposal could be submitted
19 next year if the concern is still there based on the user group
20 meetings. Or the proposal could be brought up the following
21 year. So there are all sorts of scenarios in that regard.

22
23 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Well, the thing I'm -- well,
24 go ahead Helen.

25
26 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Even if you dropped it, just
27 as an option, if you wanted to drop it, it could still be
28 resubmitted next year. So it's just a technicality really. If
29 you dropped it the Board wouldn't discuss it at all, if you
30 deferred it the Board would discuss it. And either way, it
31 could be brought up next year.

32
33 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Because what I'm thinking
34 about is that as we continue talking about this user conflict
35 and trying to see some resolution to it, this has an effect on
36 it.

37
38 MR. KNAUER: Yes, and it's very common, Mr.
39 Chairman, for situations where there are events that may
40 influence a proposal like a management plan that's being worked
41 on or a working group that's being put together, for a Regional
42 Council to recommend either rejection or deferral or tabling of
43 a motion to allow that cooperative effort to come to
44 fulfillment. So that's not uncommon throughout the State with
45 the Regional Councils.

46
47 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: The other issue that I want
48 to get more clear on is the Thomas law, too. The one that's
49 been passed, the amendment that you were talking about, that
50 would allow for limiting the number of guides and outfitters

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1 and clients?

2

3 MR. SPIRTEs: Correct. On NPS land, for any
4 commercial activity you need a permit. And in this particular
5 case it gives us some additional tools for doing that.

6

7 MS. MEYERS: What name did you put on that
8 legislation?

9

10 MR. SPIRTEs: It's called the Thomas Bill.

11

12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any other comments from the
13 Council? Ricky.

14

15 MR. ASHBY: When you say about having training
16 of guides, like if the people, the residents say they start
17 training people from like the region and put them in that Park
18 area, and what would be your attitude -- say like you got 10/15
19 guys that want to be guides, they want to train to be guides
20 and then you get them certified by people like Larry that know
21 the country and -- and distribute food in that -- you know, the
22 meat that you take to the town and that's -- what would be your
23 options? How would you weigh it like you get people from
24 outside, Lower 48 or from the state that come up and they want
25 to guide, too, what would be your choice in choosing which
26 people to use as guides to permit them to hunt and guide in
27 that Park area?

28

29 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: I don't know if we have an
30 answer right now, Ricky, I think they're looking at that right
31 now because -- but what we're going to take care of this
32 action. You know, we can certainly talk about guides when the
33 issue of user conflict comes up and the limitations on them, I
34 think.

35

36 MR. ASHBY: Well, it was a suggestion.

37

38 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: It was a suggestion, yeah,
39 to get them trained and that's a good idea, you know. I don't
40 have any problem with that, nobody's got any problem with that.

41

42 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman, when will there be
43 a next possible moose count that's going to take place? That
44 was in '98 and then you guys.....

45

46 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: The first one they did in
47 the Squirrel was in '92.

48

49 MS. MEYERS: The general idea was every five
50 years for the Squirrel. And you know, if need be, it could be

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1 done a little more often, but it was thought originally that
2 that would be enough. And actually they started trying to do
3 it in '97, and that would have only -- and actually that was
4 five years -- '96, actually we tried two years in a row and
5 this was the third year that they tried. So we wanted to do it
6 a little early because there was a lot of use in the Squirrel
7 and people were concerned about the moose population so it
8 could be adjusted, but five years is the figure they use.

9

10 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, we've got three things
11 that we can consider -- well, not three but a number of them;
12 drop it, reject it, adopt it, defer it, table it?

13

14 MR. GRIEST: Mr. Chair.

15

16 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman.

17

18 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Bill.

19

20 MR. KNAUER: Just for clarification, generally
21 table and defer are.....

22

23 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: They're the same?

24

25 MR. KNAUER:regarded as the same thing?

26

27 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Drop it and reject
28 are the same, too?

29

30 MR. KNAUER: Yes.

31

32 MR. RABINOWITCH: Most of the time.

33

34 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So we're down to three.
35 Table, adopt or drop it.

36

37 MR. GRIEST: How about not accept?

38

39 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Not accept. What was the
40 Staff recommendation, to oppose it, reject?

41

42 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yes.

43

44 MS. DEWHURST: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman, Helen
45 and I were discussing, there is one other option which isn't
46 used very often but just to put it on the table, you can
47 withdraw it. You can totally pull the proposal. Because you,
48 the Council, made the proposal, you have the power to pull the
49 proposal.

50

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: That's a more diplomatic way
2 to do it, withdraw it. Unless there's objection from the
3 Council here, that would probably be the most appropriate move
4 at this point.

5
6 What's the wish of the Council?

7
8 MR. BALLOT: Mr. Chairman, I move to withdraw
9 our proposal.

10
11 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Is there a second?

12
13 MS. WARD: Second.

14
15 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any discussion on the
16 motion. Under discussion then let's get a couple of things
17 straight here. You will get us up to speed on the Thomas Bill
18 at some point in time, give us some kind of time line and what
19 we can do to start investigating this possibility of using it.

20
21 Secondly, I don't want to wait five years for a count.
22 I mean, if all the moose are right in front of Kiana where's
23 the rest of them? Where's the 1,300 to 1,800?

24
25 When can we get an answer on the count there, Randi?

26
27 MS. MEYERS: Well, Fish and Game should be
28 consulted with and right this week they're in Nome, so say next
29 week.

30
31 MR. GRIEST: Okay.

32
33 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Not a scientific count. I
34 don't like that. I'm not convinced of it.

35
36 MS. MEYERS: Well, that meeting is still
37 pending to get everybody together to talk about the methods
38 that they use. So you know, that might help or it might not
39 help but maybe a way to.....

40
41 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah, when the actual count
42 is 350 moose and they say there's between 1,300 and 1,800,
43 there's something wrong.

44
45 MS. MEYERS: Well, it's a way of sampling.
46 It's a way of sampling and they have their protocol. I'm not
47 a statistician, so I'm not going to debate it.

48
49 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Anymore discussion on
50 the motion?

1 MR. BALLOT: I have a question. If somebody
2 kind of -- if they start a proposal they should be here to
3 speak on part of that proposal.

4
5 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. We'll make that clear
6 if somebody submits a proposal to us, they need to be present
7 it to support it or not.

8
9 Anymore discussion on the motion.

10
11 MR. BALLOT: Question.

12
13 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All those in favor signify
14 by saying aye.

15
16 IN UNISON: Aye.

17
18 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All opposed.

19
20 (No opposing responses)

21
22 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Unanimous. Agency reports.
23 Anybody want to tell us about the birds? Migratory bird
24 update.

25
26 MR. KNAUER: Mr. Chairman.

27
28 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yes.

29
30 MR. KNAUER: I'll give you just a little bit of
31 information. As you're aware, after a number of years of
32 effort the protocol ending the Migratory Bird Treaty between
33 the United States and Canada was finally passed. That involved
34 lengthy negotiations, participation by members of the Alaska
35 Native community were instrumental in getting this
36 accomplished.

37
38 The next step is the development of what are called
39 management bodies. You're probably aware that there were a
40 number of meetings conducted across the state last fall. Many
41 of those were held in conjunction with Regional Council
42 meetings. And the intent of those was to solicit public input
43 as to what the local folks thought would be the appropriate
44 number of management bodies, whether there should be one
45 management body for the entire state or whether it should be
46 broken up like a piece of pie or whatever.

47
48 Well, what they're -- the effort now under way is to
49 take the comments that were received from all those meetings
50 and develop a plan that provides some alternatives in detail

1 for management bodies. The management bodies would involve the
2 State, the Native community and the Federal government. After
3 that plan is developed, which should be -- I think scheduled
4 towards the end of this month, it will come out again for
5 public review and then hopefully a decision will be made
6 sometime during late summer.

7

8 Charlie Brower is the Chairman of the Native Migratory
9 Bird Working Group. He has been very active in that group.
10 Ron Sam down in Western Interior has been involved with it,
11 made some of the presentations. You might know both of those
12 folks. I'm not sure who else in the Native community has been
13 involved.

14

15 So it is proceeding along the lines. You, as the
16 public, will get an opportunity to provide additional comments.
17 So that's the extent of my knowledge of the effort.

18

19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So we can legally hunt ducks
20 this spring?

21

22 MR. KNAUER: Not quite yet. But it's getting
23 closer.

24

25 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Raymond.

26

27 MR. STONEY: Otherwise how many more years to
28 get legalized?

29

30 MR. KNAUER: They expect it to take it about
31 two years.....

32

33 MR. STONEY: More?

34

35 MR. KNAUER: More to get done, right. They are
36 proceeding and they're seeing movement.

37

38 MR. STONEY: It will be legalized?

39

40 MR. KNAUER: Pardon?

41

42 MR. STONEY: It will be legalized?

43

44 MR. KNAUER: Yes. And that also includes the
45 taking of eggs?

46

47 MR. STONEY: Okay.

48

49 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So we will be kept abreast
50 of when this decision is made to whether they'll have a

1 management body or not, uh?

2

3 MR. KNAUER: What form the management bodies
4 will be in, yes?

5

6 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

7

8 MR. KNAUER: Actually your comments will be
9 solicited on that first. You won't be just advised of here's
10 how it's going to be.

11

12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Any questions on the
13 birds?

14

15 MR. GRIEST: No.

16

17 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Fish. Fisheries update.

18

19 MR. KNAUER: Yes, sir. Back on January 8th the
20 final regulations were published in the Federal Register
21 extending jurisdiction for fisheries management. They're part
22 of a phased in program that was implemented by Congress. This
23 phased in program allowed the publication of regulations which
24 would then become effective on October 1 of this year. The
25 phased in implementation provided the opportunity for the State
26 to again, try to come into compliance and also to allow the
27 Federal agencies time to essentially get organized. And as
28 part of this effort, it authorized -- Congress authorized one
29 million dollars to come to the Federal government for planning
30 starting June 1 if the State hasn't acted by then, and then an
31 additional \$10 million to put everything into effect starting
32 October 1 if the State hasn't acted by that time.

33

34 The jurisdiction for fisheries would only apply to
35 Federal waters, it would not apply to any non-Federal waters.
36 The -- you've heard Secretary Babbitt, both before and by tape,
37 before AFN and before the Legislature state that he will
38 strongly recommend that the President veto any action by
39 Congress that would further suspend implementation. He's
40 essentially said, not on my watch, this is going to happen now.

41

42 The final rule that was published is based on existing
43 State fisheries subsistence regulations to reduce the
44 disruption of fisheries. This is very similar to what happened
45 back in 1990 when we assumed management of wildlife and at that
46 time you remember we started with existing State regulations
47 and then each year have received proposals which are more in
48 line with regional and local harvest practices. And we believe
49 in that in that regard it will be similar in the fisheries
50 standpoint.

1 The final rule does extend jurisdiction for fisheries
2 to Federal waters. In Southeast on the Forest Service areas,
3 the inland waters on Forest Service lands would be dealt with
4 the same way that they're dealt with for Department of the
5 Interior lands. That was not the case in the proposed rule so
6 that is a change in the final rule.

7
8 For wildlife, the management of wildlife, selected but
9 not yet conveyed lands within the boundaries of CSU's,
10 recreation and conservation areas would be included in the
11 program. That would be within Parks, Preserves, Monuments,
12 Refuges, NPRA. Both Secretaries have stated -- restated their
13 authority to extend jurisdiction off of Federal lands in rare,
14 very rare circumstances if activities that are occurring there
15 create a failure to achieve a priority on Federal lands.

16
17 Because fisheries management is very, very time
18 sensitive, sometimes requiring openings and closings with just
19 hours of notice, the final regulations provide for delegation
20 to -- from the Federal Subsistence Board to field managers for
21 that authority in certain cases.

22
23 Also, customary trade is part of the program and the
24 Regional Councils strongly indicated that there was a regional
25 difference as to what constitutes customary trade. In other
26 words, sale -- the limited non-commercial sale of subsistence
27 taken resources. Some regions said it doesn't happen in our
28 region, we don't think there should be any sale of subsistence
29 resources. Other regions said, yeah, there's a little bit.
30 You know, we sell some dry strips or occasionally some white
31 fish or things like that so we want a limited amount. Other
32 regions have indicated that in their region there is a greater
33 amount and at least one region indicated that they didn't
34 believe there should be any limit on it. So the final rule
35 accommodates a situation where the Board will come out to each
36 Regional Council and solicit their input as to what would be
37 appropriate for their region.

38
39 The final regulations also have been written in a
40 little bit plainer language. And also many of the regulations
41 that did not apply because they weren't Federal waters have
42 been removed to try to simplify it.

43
44 We recognize that any implementation is going to be
45 very complicated and will involve extensive coordination with
46 the State. The State has been managing fisheries for many
47 years, they have a very large staff of biologists, they have
48 got sampling programs and management programs throughout the
49 state so the Federal Subsistence Board has been and will
50 continue to meet with the Commissioner and the Chairs of the

1 Board of Fish and Board of Game to try and work out a
2 coordinated effort that disrupts both fisheries management and
3 the users the least amount possible.

4

5 Like I said, this is very complicated. Much of it is
6 still in the planning stage. Within the Federal Subsistence
7 Management Program, we're still trying to develop an
8 organizational structure just to implement the fisheries
9 management program. We're not sure just exactly what we need
10 in the way of staff or structure. Certainly, although Congress
11 has committed some money, we're not sure how much of that
12 should go to hiring people to use in cooperative agreements
13 with Native organizations and tribes to institute studies,
14 we're not sure what that should be. We're not totally sure as
15 to what regulatory process, the timing, what it should be,
16 because we don't want to disrupt, certainly the process that
17 has worked for wildlife. We don't want to disrupt the
18 subsistence user. In other words, we don't want proposals --
19 the proposal period when they're out fishing. So we want to
20 try and make it work for them.

21

22 Also we've got one area, the Yukon River, that is
23 extremely complicated. It's a mix of Federal and State areas
24 all the way up. It's a mix of commercial, sport, personal use,
25 and subsistence users, many of whom are the same individual.
26 We've got international implications with Canada having those
27 same four groups of users over the border there, plus we've got
28 some of those -- many of those stocks that go into the Yukon
29 are harvested on the open seas. So it is a very complicated
30 process.

31

32 We are proceeding slowly with trying to develop some of
33 these issues. We recognize we need to have some of them
34 thought out before June 1st when we receive the first little bit
35 of money. We recognize that we need to have many of them in
36 place by September 30 when the regulations would come into
37 effect on October 1 because we believe that we'll need to start
38 right out, although we'll be using the regulations that are
39 published here the first year, that same first year we'll be
40 wanting to receive proposals so that we can make changes in the
41 following year.

42

43 That's the current status and I would welcome any
44 questions.

45

46 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: You haven't determined yet
47 whether or not any proposals will go through the RAC to the
48 Federal Subsistence Board or is that the process it's going to
49 go through?

50

1 MR. KNAUER: The Regional Councils will be
2 definitely involved and proposals will go through -- proposals
3 will go through Regional Councils.....

4
5 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

6
7 MR. KNAUER:yes. That commitment I can
8 make flat out, yes.

9
10 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. So there won't be a
11 Federal Subsistence Board of Fisheries, uh?

12
13 MR. KNAUER: We don't think so.

14
15 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. Any questions on the
16 fisheries for Bill? Thank you. C&T Working Group Update.
17 Helen.

18
19 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair. You
20 probably remember last fall we solicited your comments on how
21 you felt about the C&T, the customary and traditional use
22 determination process and this is an update to let you know
23 what's happened since then.

24
25 For a little bit of background for those people who
26 might be new. Last year at the Federal Subsistence Board
27 meeting in May, there was a decision to create a C&T working
28 group. And that working group was to address the issue of how
29 we should be doing C&T. And the reason this had come about was
30 because there were widely different ways, different Councils
31 made C&T determinations and the feeling was we've been in this
32 process long enough that maybe we should go back and look and
33 see if there were some things we should do differently.

34
35 The members of the working group are Dan O'Hara, Craig
36 Fleener, Bill Thomas, who are all Council Chairs, as well as
37 Mitch Demientieff, who's our Chair of the Board. And then Ida
38 Hildebrand, who's the BIA Staff Committee representative, Sandy
39 Rabinowitch who's here who is the Park Service Staff Committee
40 representative, Keith Goltz, our solicitor and Ken Thompson
41 who's from Forest Service.

42
43 The working group met -- I should have told you, I'm
44 sorry, this is Tab V in your book if you wanted to just look
45 along with what I'm saying. They met three times in May, July
46 and then November and had one teleconference. Their final
47 meeting in November, they took all the comments that the
48 Councils had made in the fall meetings and looked at them to
49 decide what direction they wanted to go and it was a very long
50 and difficult meeting. And what really came out of it was that

1 it was difficult to find some consensus among the Councils.

2

3 There were some areas that were common threads, I
4 think, that all the Councils were concerned about, probably the
5 most important one was the importance of traditional knowledge.
6 There was a lot of discussion about how and what the Council's
7 are saying as well as the public input that we're getting at
8 the meetings, that that's really important that we put that
9 information into our C&T determinations, and not only that we
10 put it in but that it is really listened to. I think there was
11 then a recommendation from the working group that we fully
12 recognize the importance of traditional knowledge and we can do
13 that easily without changing the regulations.

14

15 The other issue was how we did C&T, whether we did it
16 by single species or whether we did it by multiple species,
17 where up to now we've been doing it, we'll do C&T on black bear
18 in Unit 21, for example. And there were Councils who felt that
19 we should be doing, instead of looking at it, just one species
20 at a time, looking at it as a community or a region or a unit
21 at a time doing multiple species. And the thinking was is that
22 a lot of the discussion that goes into a C&T determination is
23 the same or similar for each species. The discussions, for
24 example, and from generation to generation, sharing the
25 traditional knowledge, sharing the resources, that's going to
26 be the same sort of thing for each species.

27

28 We are doing some of this, not in all cases this year.
29 We could go ahead and do multiple species analysis without
30 changing the regulations and so especially in Region 2 and
31 Region 3 there are some proposals they're doing this way and
32 it's going to be very -- it's very different from what's been
33 done before where we have a whole series of C&T proposals for
34 Healy Lake and there's a whole discussion on Healy Lake first
35 and then specific discussion with each resource.

36

37 The third issue that was probably where we really got
38 a lot of discussion was how to deal with differences between
39 Councils in how they do C&T and that what will you do if you
40 have an overlap proposal. And this Council had recommended
41 that we -- that the Councils determine how to do C&T, each
42 Council make their own decision of how to do it and what they
43 got hung up with is what you do if you have one Council doing
44 it one way and another Council's doing it another way and they
45 have overlap C&T, then how will you deal with the differences.
46 That became a bit of a conflict.

47

48 There was some desire from some Councils to do C&T by
49 unit, to say all residents in Unit 23 have C&T for all species
50 surrounding into Unit 23 and then surrounding units; to do sort

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1 of a sweeping C&T analysis. And there were some who really
2 wanted to push for that.

3

4 The final recommendation from the working group was
5 that -- well, the final conclusion really of what the Councils
6 had voted was that nine out of the 10 Councils wanted to do C&T
7 in some way, some fashion. There was one Council that said we
8 shouldn't be doing it at all. Four of the Councils voted that
9 the process for doing C&T be developed by the Councils and this
10 was one of the Councils recommending that. The other Councils,
11 it was sort of a variation between we want to stick with the
12 eight factors or mostly it was to change the eight factors.

13

14 Basically the C&T working group reached a little bit of
15 an impasse, I would say. It was a very difficult meeting.
16 Very, very difficult. And at this point decided not to
17 recommend any changes in the regulations, but they also wanted
18 additional guidance, perhaps from the -- from the Board on what
19 to do. It was left up to -- taking this to the Board and
20 seeing if the Board wanted to go back and ask for further work.
21 In the meantime, we're doing some different things within the
22 change in the regulations that was -- without changing the
23 regulations within the existing regulations and that was doing
24 the species by species versus the all species approach, trying
25 to do some different things there.

26

27 So where we are now is that this overview is being
28 presented to all the Councils and then the Board will take
29 these recommendations up at some undetermined time and what
30 will happen then is anybody's guess, I suppose. But I don't
31 think this is the end of it. People didn't feel like it had
32 really kind of come to an end and closed the door, especially
33 with fish coming on board, we may be revisiting this sometime
34 this summer, I think.

35

36 Sandy, do you want to add anything?

37

38 MR. RABINOWITCH: I think you've done a good
39 job unless there's any questions that I could answer.

40

41 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Okay.

42

43 MR. RABINOWITCH: But Helen did a thorough job.

44

45 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Do we need to worry about
46 C&T for fisheries?

47

48 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Yes.

49

50 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

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1 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: And that's one of our
2 concerns is that we could be inundated with C&T for fisheries.
3 And so if we.....

4
5 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: You've got all our species
6 listed, uh? I mean it's just going to be one sweeping.....

7
8 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It would make it a whole lot
9 simpler wouldn't it?

10
11 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

12
13 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: So that's where we are.

14
15 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

16
17 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: We'll see what the Board
18 decides to do.

19
20 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any questions?

21
22 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

23
24 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Muskox. Donna.

25
26 MS. DEWHURST: We had a meeting, when was it,
27 back in February, I guess it was, in Kotzebue. This is a
28 follow-up of some meetings that Ken Adkisson, myself and Barb
29 had gone up to Point Hope and Kivalina last August.

30
31 Basically the meeting in Kotzebue came up with the
32 final points, kind of the main group decided on. First of all,
33 is that they did want to proceed with some radio nuclide
34 testing of muskox from that Cape Thompson area, the Project
35 Cherried (ph) area and that was in answer to concerns primarily
36 from the folks at Point Hope. And it was pretty much uniformly
37 agreed on to proceed with testing. Jim Dau had agreed to take
38 the lead on that and he said, actually we don't have to go out
39 and kill anymore right now, that he already had some muskox
40 meat from that area in the freezer and he was going to pursue
41 getting that tested. So that should work out really nicely.
42 It's fairly low cost and we'll get some answers fairly quickly.
43 So that was the first thing.

44
45 The second thing was there was pretty much uniform
46 agreement from the group that they wanted to proceed with
47 starting to plan and talk about some sort of a hunt up in that
48 area. A new muskox hunt. We already have both Federal and
49 State C&T to hunt muskox, so that's not an issue. The issue
50 will be where and how and when and how many and all the details

1 of the hunt to set up. We're mainly dealing with two different
2 types of Federal land. We have the Cape Krusenstern area down
3 on the lower portion of the coast and then those little pink
4 areas that are up above Cape Krusenstern are Alaska Maritime
5 Refuge. And so we have some Refuge lands and then there's a
6 little smattering of BLM lands in there, too. So that's what
7 we're dealing with as far as Federal lands. The State's on
8 board with this and there is a good chance we could have a
9 combined, State and Federal hunt like we have on the Seward
10 Peninsula right now. And that could work out quite nicely.
11 Especially given the small chunks of land around Point Hope
12 that are Federal, it would kind of almost make more sense to
13 have a combined hunt of some sort around the Point Hope area.

14
15 So the next stage, where we're at right now is to do
16 some more surveys. I was informed from Dave Spirtes that
17 they're going to be doing a muskox composition count on the
18 area, was it next month?

19
20 MR. SPIRITES: This month.

21
22 MS. DEWHURST: This month. So that will give
23 us new information on the Cape Krusenstern animals fairly
24 quickly. Generally in the summer there's some additional
25 counts done. This time of year or in the summer, people do
26 them at different times. So we'll have some more information
27 here soon.

28
29 By next fall, at next fall's meeting is when we'll have
30 to start sitting down and kind of planning out what type of a
31 hunt everybody wants to request and working on a possibly dual
32 request, one that would go to the State Game Board and one that
33 would go to the Federal Board if that's what's decided.

34
35 So no action is needed from this group right now. The
36 action will be next fall, it would be to start talking about --
37 the main thing would be to talk with your communities and kind
38 of get a feeling for what people want and, you know, if there's
39 any objection to doing a State hunt, you know, can we do a
40 combined hunt, you know, what's the interest. It's possible up
41 on the Maritime lands that we don't even have a separate
42 Federal hunt. In talking to the Maritime Refuge folks, if the
43 local people are in agreement and feel it would meet their
44 needs, they would agree to just having a Tier II hunt that
45 would include both, Maritime and State lands, and just have one
46 hunt. But there's trade-offs with that and that's something
47 that, you know, to be thinking about between now and next fall
48 is the bottom line.

49
50 MR. ASHBY: Who is the Maritime fish and

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1 wildlife service?

2

3 MS. DEWHURST: It's U.S. Fish and Wildlife
4 Service and John Martin. They're based out of Homer. It's
5 kind of a really strange Refuge, I used to work for them so I
6 know. It's little pieces of land all along the entire coast of
7 Alaska, including the Aleutian Islands.

8

9 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So we will be able to have
10 a proposal ready to submit to the Federal Board this fall?

11

12 MS. DEWHURST: That's the hope. So I'm
13 assuming that we'll have to have some sort of a planning
14 meeting or something before next fall's RAC meeting.

15

16 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: We'd need to do that for
17 them to consider this next go around, because I think the State
18 is intending to do the same thing this fall?

19

20 MS. DEWHURST: Well, because the State Game
21 Board meeting is in.....

22

23 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: October.

24

25 MS. DEWHURST:October in Barrow.

26

27 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah.

28

29 MS. DEWHURST: So the proposals would have to
30 be -- for the State side would have to be submitted for that
31 meeting.

32

33 MS. GEORGETTE: They have to be submitted by
34 August sometime, is the deadline for the State proposals.

35

36 MS. DEWHURST: So we would be looking at
37 meetings this summer then.

38

39 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Yeah, we need to have some
40 kind of a meeting in the summer to determine what kind of
41 proposal we want to submit to the Federal Subsistence
42 Board.....

43

44 MS. DEWHURST: Something we need to be thinking
45 about, Barb, I guess.

46

47 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN:for the Federal,
48 Krusenstern especially.

49

50 MS. DEWHURST: And we'll have more information

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1 once they get their composition count, we'll have a lot better
2 feeling as far as the Krusenstern area.

3

4 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Sandy.

5

6 MR. RABINOWITCH: One point to make in terms of
7 any potential hunting. Cape Krusenstern, because it's a
8 Monument it's administered similar to a Park. And so sport
9 hunting is not allowed, so that's not an issue, that might be
10 welcome, right. And then also for Cape Krusenstern, there's
11 resident zone communities, so the pool of people who could hunt
12 if you put a proposal forward is already known. Just point
13 that out to kind of remind people.

14

15 MS. DEWHURST: There's a lot options on the
16 table.

17

18 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Park Service's kind of
19 stingy about them anyway, but we'll -- they were when we were
20 discussing the muskox here, you know, at the meeting in
21 Kotzebue.

22

23 Okay, any questions -- yes, Raymond.

24

25 MR. STONEY: I want a clarification actual when
26 they'll hunt muskox, Cape Krusenstern area, when?

27

28 MS. DEWHURST: When the decision would be made?

29

30 MR. STONEY: When it will be open for -- when?

31

32 MS. DEWHURST: The soonest it could be done
33 would be a decision made by the Federal Board next -- it would
34 be the spring of 2000 so then that would open the hunt up for
35 the fall of 2000. So that would be the soonest.

36

37 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Well, if the State actions
38 they'll probably open theirs first?

39

40 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, but it would probably
41 still be in the fall. I mean generally the muskox hunts are
42 fall, winter, spring.

43

44 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Well, if they have a meeting
45 in October.

46

47 MS. GEORGETTE: It's not -- but it doesn't take
48 effect until the next regulatory year.

49

50 MS. DEWHURST: Next year, yeah.

1 MS. GEORGETTE: So the decisions made in
2 October become effective the next fall.

3
4 MS. DEWHURST: So we would be looking at the
5 fall of the year 2000.....

6
7 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

8
9 MS. DEWHURST:for both.

10
11 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Do you think by then we'll
12 have some kind of an indication of what to do with the strays?
13 That issue came up when we were having our meeting in Kotzebue?
14 Is it still the Park Service's position that we just shoot
15 them?

16
17 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, right.

18
19 MR. SPIRTE: What's a stray?

20
21 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: That's what we're trying to
22 find out, you know, because they seen them here in Kiana, not
23 too far from here.

24
25 MR. SPIRTE: That's certainly one of the
26 issues that has to be dealt with. The bulls, that's how they
27 expand the range is by wandering out like that and we'll have
28 to decide what to do.

29
30 One other point with that, Mr. Chairman, because it's
31 a Monument we have a subsistence resource commission, of
32 course, for Krusenstern chaired by Pete Schaffers so we'll have
33 to work closely with them also on this issue.

34
35 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Thanks, Dave. Any questions
36 on the muskox? Thank you. User conflict.

37
38 MS. DEWHURST: Do you want to take the lead on
39 that one?

40
41 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Actually, yeah.

42
43 MS. DEWHURST: Okay.

44
45 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: We had a meeting here in
46 Kotzebue not too long ago. The State of Alaska had some money
47 so they brought in their advisory groups, members of the RAC
48 were there, and some villagers, hunters that came down from
49 different communities to talk about user conflict.

1 Anyway it's a pretty widely known issue that has to be
2 dealt with before it escalates to further worse consequences
3 like we had in the Upper Kobuk where guns were pulled and
4 people were robbed.

5
6 It's still an issue that's not only in the Upper Kobuk
7 but in other areas here it hasn't been escalated to that severe
8 of incidences. But the upshot of the meeting was that the
9 problem with user conflict is the number of people coming in
10 that are not resident subsistence users but people that are
11 brought in by guides, outfitters and also the hunters that fly
12 in from Anchorage and Fairbanks using their own airplanes.

13
14 So what we decided to do was have a meeting with the
15 guides and outfitters in early April to see if we can't come up
16 with a solution that would probably hopefully limit the numbers
17 of people coming in by those two types of people that bring in
18 people even though it's pretty difficult to try stop the hunter
19 from Anchorage or Fairbanks who come in bringing their own
20 airplane and keep tabs of it. Hopefully we can work something
21 out, and that meeting's supposed to take place in early April.

22
23 And after that we plan on having one more meeting again
24 in Kotzebue to discuss the issue again and the issue of permits
25 and licenses with the land managers, like the Park Service who
26 will supposedly have some authority under the Thomas Bill that
27 will come into play.

28
29 Why don't you add some more.

30
31 MS. DEWHURST: That was pretty much it. There
32 was some talk a lot about using Section .810 evaluations which
33 are things the Park Service does, BLM -- well, the BLM has a
34 little different system, but Fish and Wildlife Service does.
35 Every time there's a commercial guide or some sort of a
36 commercial operation, that's the permitting process. And I
37 know there was some follow-up in our office about that.

38
39 In the past with the Refuges they haven't done much as
40 far as public notice on .810s. The way they got through that
41 there was a little loophole there that if you -- it's up to the
42 discretion of the manager or the person above them that if they
43 determine that the potential impacts are not significant you
44 can forgo public comments. Well, there's talk now in our
45 regional office that maybe we quit doing that and we better be
46 contacting the public more often. So I think you'll see a
47 change in that. I think that in the future, at least, with
48 Refuges, they will be contacting the public and there will be
49 public notice, which I think it's going to be a real positive
50 thing for this area and other areas, too. Because I think

1 they're realizing that that isn't a step they can skip anymore
2 and they managed to do it in the past.

3

4 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Well, can I clarify that for
5 a minute.

6

7 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah.

8

9 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: It's not that they skipped
10 it it's that .810s are only required to be taken to the public
11 if there's a significant impact and they were determining them
12 to be insignificant so that it wasn't going to the public. But
13 I think what you're saying is that they're realizing that maybe
14 they should be taken to the public and the public has some
15 input as to whether or not the impacts are significant.

16

17 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah, that's exactly it. And
18 they're talking about doing a state wide basis, not just one
19 area that in the future maybe all of these should be taken to
20 the public and that's what they're talking about in the
21 regional office. So I think that will be a good thing. And
22 .810 will be a way to control, at least, the guiding
23 operations. It doesn't control air taxi's very well, but it
24 does control the commercial guides. And it would provide an
25 opportunity -- and public notice whenever there's a change in
26 guides or there's a new notice or whatever, it would go out to
27 the communities and the communities would get the opportunity
28 to comment on who gets the guiding licenses and all that sort
29 of thing.

30

31 So I think that will be a help as far as the user
32 conflict situation. And that was discussed at the meeting and
33 it was nice to see it followed through, at least, in Refuges
34 pretty quickly and that they -- it got back to the regional
35 office and they were talking about making changes that week.
36 So it's nice to see when the Federal government moves that fast
37 and implement some positive changes. I don't think it's a done
38 deal but they're definitely talking about moving in that
39 direction.

40

41 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Sandy.

42

43 MR. RABINOWITCH: I also attended the meeting,
44 as you know and just offer a short observation or two. Willie,
45 as you know, actually, I've been in and out of Kotzebue since
46 the mid-80s and have had some opportunity, be it from a long
47 distance, but to watch and learn about things over a number of
48 years now. And the observation that I would offer is that I
49 would encourage the group to bring to the table at least two
50 parties that weren't there, at least, I didn't see them there,

1 and that's the State Division of Lands and I'd frankly go
2 straight to Commissioner Shively and invite him and ask him to
3 send somebody and be part of the group because I believe the
4 State DNR manages a portion of land along the Kobuk River that
5 it's kind of in play here with the issues. And then also the
6 Borough.

7

8 And the reason I suggest that is that I think that the
9 long-term solution -- I think the problems are complex, I think
10 they're long-term. And although the Federal program, through
11 the Federal Subsistence Board, probably has a role to play to
12 help, I personally don't think it has all the answers to solve
13 all the problems. I think the land managing agencies kind of
14 also have some input.

15

16 The examples that Dave Spirtes gave, being a good one
17 from the Park Service, there's a new law that effects Park
18 lands and that will maybe pan out and help with a portion of
19 the problem in a portion of the area but it won't fix the whole
20 thing. I think if you can get the other land managers to the
21 table in a real serious way, get them to keep coming back,
22 maybe they have a little piece too that they can contribute.

23

24 And I go back to the NANA strategy meetings of the
25 early '80s that I attended for several years. I've always
26 thought those were particularly productive when you brought all
27 the people of the whole region together and I see the effort
28 you're doing here as a little bit similar to that, you know,
29 smaller scale. So I think you're on the right track. And I'd
30 just bring at least a couple other land managers to the table
31 that weren't there.

32

33 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anybody have any other
34 comments on the user conflict meeting we had?

35

36 MR. ASHBY: I might have a question. How can
37 we find out about these, like sport hunter guides and stuff
38 that come in? Because I know they come a lot into -- when I
39 stay at camp during the fall time I see them a lot, just fly
40 over, you don't get to meet them, you don't know who they are.

41

42 MS. DEWHURST: It's pretty hard to regulate the
43 private plane owner, if they're an in-state resident just
44 flying their own plane out, it's very difficult for anybody to
45 regulate them. It steps up the more it becomes the commercial
46 operation the easier it is to control them. So we have this
47 whole different classification of people out there.

48

49 You got the sport hunter in his own airplane. You got
50 the person that's using an air taxi to get dropped off and then

1 you got the guided hunter. And we have good control over the
2 guided folks, the commercial operations, but as we go back down
3 the ladder, the further down you go the less control and the
4 less knowledge we have of how many people are out there. So it
5 is tough and it's a problem for everybody that we'd like to
6 know more about who's out there and why.

7

8 A lot of our best information comes from the harvest
9 ticket that the State system where they're supposed to turn in
10 their, you know, their State harvest ticket. Unfortunately
11 that's some of our best information on the general sport hunter
12 and where they are and what they're doing.

13

14 MR. ASHBY: So the private people that come in
15 from out of state, we don't really know how much sheep, bear,
16 moose they're getting?

17

18 MS. DEWHURST: Well, if they're going through
19 a commercial guide we have good information.

20

21 MR. ASHBY: I mean the private sector?

22

23 MS. DEWHURST: Well, if they're out of state,
24 most of the time, an out of stater is going to use a guide or
25 a relative. So the ones that we don't have much control over
26 or know much are people that live in Anchorage or Fairbanks
27 that, you know, a doctor or somebody that owns their own plane
28 and hops in his Cessna and comes up here to hunt. It's very
29 difficult to get information on those types of people and we
30 don't have much regulatory -- you know, we don't have much
31 authority over them. They can hunt under the State law and
32 there isn't much we can do about it.

33

34 MS. MEYERS: But if they do have a moose tag or
35 a caribou tag.....

36

37 MS. DEWHURST: They have to.....

38

39 MS. MEYERS:you know, they should be
40 mailing them back in.

41

42 MS. DEWHURST: Yeah. And that's our only
43 information is the harvest tags, the harvest tickets.

44

45 MR. ASHBY: The reason I'm asking this is
46 because I'm seeing still a lot of the planes and you know, you
47 wonder what -- what are they doing? They go over there and
48 they fly back and we don't even see them and I don't even see
49 Park people, they're out flying the September -- right around
50 the end of September and these guys are in there until October,

00100

1 when they never freeze for awhile that's -- you know, you get
2 them all the way. But as soon as it starts raining and snowing
3 and sleet they go. That's just my observation from across the
4 river.

5
6 MS. DEWHURST: Uh-huh.

7
8 MR. ASHBY: But it looks like the residents
9 that are the most ones that's regulated, sport guides and
10 resident hunters.

11
12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any other questions. If not
13 we'll move right along here. Barb's Corner.

14
15 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: I was trying to do
16 reservations. Okay, let me do the travel real quick first.
17 First I have for the charter we changed around here since Bert
18 won't be going back with us, there'll be Willie, Salena, Helen,
19 Donna, Bill, Sandy Rabinowitch, Percy, Ricky and Rosie on the
20 charter. And then there are reservations with Bering Air for
21 Joe Arey, Frank Norris, Susan Georgette, Ken Adkisson, Dave
22 Sprites and myself. I think that's everyone. Oh, Randi.

23
24 MS. MEYERS: No, I've got reservations.

25
26 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Oh, okay, sounds good.

27
28 And the next thing I have is this -- the paper that I
29 passed out to the Council members on your waiver. Handed out.
30 This is the paper that we'll -- if you have a bank account with
31 NBA. If you guys look at the addresses and then check your
32 names and see if your addresses are okay and your phone
33 numbers. You can give these back to me and Janice, in
34 Anchorage, will take them to the bank and have this bottom part
35 filled out.

36
37 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: Barb, Janice asked us to
38 tell you, yesterday, that if you do that today, she's all ready
39 with envelopes, she's got it all set to go. She just needs
40 your bank account number, your name on there, your signature
41 and she'll have it out tomorrow.

42
43 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay, so just write your
44 account number down then, your account number. Fill them out
45 and then I'll give them with these people going back tonight.
46 And I think, Ricky you don't need to worry about this, I know
47 he doesn't want to reapply for his position.

48
49 We have four seats open for the Northwest Arctic.
50 Walter resigned because he's on the Board of Game. Ray

00101

1 Stoney's seat and term is up as of December, Ricky Ashby and
2 Willie Goodwin so there'll be four seats open for this terms
3 nominations. And applications are being accepted to the 26th
4 of March.

5
6 I handed out your guys annual report that Willie worked
7 on this spring. And if you guys would approve it, do a motion
8 and an approval, I'm sure everyone's looked at it, then we can
9 just have Willie sign it and it will be ready to be handed over
10 to Mitch, the Chair for the Federal Board.

11
12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Everybody got a copy of it?

13
14 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Uh-huh, I handed it out this
15 morning.

16
17 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

18
19 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: And I think that's about it.
20 Thank you.

21
22 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anybody want to make any
23 changes on the annual report or is that sufficient?

24
25 MR. GRIEST: It looks good.

26
27 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: A motion's in order to
28 approve it then.

29
30 MR. GRIEST: So moved.

31
32 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Is there a second?

33
34 MR. STONEY: Second.

35
36 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Second by Raymond. Any
37 discussion.

38
39 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Question.

40
41 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All those in favor signify
42 by saying aye.

43
44 IN UNISON: Aye.

45
46 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: All opposed.

47
48 (No opposing responses)

49
50 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: All right.

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So it's ready to submit.
2 Item 9 is election of officers. Who's presiding?

3
4 MR. GRIEST: You're doing fine.

5
6 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Are you going to preside the
7 election of Chair?

8
9 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Yeah, I can do it the Chair
10 if you guys want. Okay, nominations are now open for Chair.

11
12 MR. GRIEST: I nominate Willie.

13
14 MS. WARD: Second.

15
16 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Willie is nominated.

17
18 MR. BALLOT: I move to close.

19
20 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Close, so I guess your Chair
21 Willie. Is it unanimous?

22
23 MR. BALLOT: I ask for unanimous consent.

24
25 IN UNISON: Aye.

26
27 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: Okay, thank you, Percy.
28 Unanimous consent. Willie, you can take over.

29
30 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Thank you. Nominations are
31 open for vice chair.

32
33 MS. WARD: I nominate Bert.

34
35 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Is there a second.

36
37 MS. WARD: Second.

38
39 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any other nominations. Is
40 there a second? You have to have a second to approve the
41 nominations.

42
43 MR. ASHBY: For?

44
45 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Vice chair. Is there a
46 second to the motion?

47
48 MS. WARD: Second.

49
50 MR. ASHBY: Second.

1 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay, any objections? So
2 it's ordered by unanimous consent and Bert is vice chair.
3 Nominations are open for secretary.

4
5 MR. BALLOT: Move for Raymond Stoney and ask
6 for unanimous consent.

7
8 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any other nominations?

9
10 MR. BALLOT: My motion was to move and.....

11
12 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Move to close?

13
14 MR. BALLOT: Yeah.

15
16 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Is there a second?

17
18 MR. GRIEST: Second.

19
20 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any objection? Hearing
21 none, Raymond's the secretary.

22
23 Now, that we've got our election of officers taken care
24 of real quick here, any other business? Anything?

25
26 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: You need your meeting place.

27
28 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Time and place of the next
29 meeting. We also have an invitation to meet with the North
30 Slope Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Council when?

31
32 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: In Anchorage.

33
34 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: In Anchorage October.....

35
36 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: 19 and 20.

37
38 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN:19 and 20.

39
40 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: That's right before AFN.

41
42 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay. You're not going to
43 be taking me away from any of my Native business, uh?

44
45 MS. H. ARMSTRONG: I don't know.

46
47 MS. DEWHURST: The Game Board's meeting the
48 following week, the 22nd through the 26th.

49
50 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Okay.

00104

1 MS. DEWHURST: So we did look into that to make
2 sure there wasn't a conflict, so they're the following week.

3
4 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: What do you need from us, to
5 go ahead and approve it?

6
7 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: If you approve of it.

8
9 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Anybody have any objection
10 to meeting with the North Slope people in Anchorage on October
11 19 and 20?

12
13 MR. GRIEST: Sounds good.

14
15 MS. MEYERS: I'm just curious how that would
16 work, everybody would sit around one big table and we'd go
17 through their agenda and then.....

18
19 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: No. We have mutual concerns
20 that we talk about.

21
22 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: It's a joint meeting with
23 the same agenda.

24
25 MS. MEYERS: Got it.

26
27 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: So if you have any issues
28 that you want to talk about with the North Slope let me know or
29 let Barb know for sure and we can discuss them.

30
31 I did get a call from Fenton last week about our
32 proposal and they supported our sheep proposal to make it a
33 permanent regulation. So issues of concern that are common to
34 both areas, caribou, moose, predator control, muskox. Yeah,
35 muskox, that's the one they like.

36
37 Okay, so that will be our next meeting is in October,
38 Barb?

39
40 MS. B. ARMSTRONG: October 19 and 20 in
41 Anchorage.

42
43 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: In Anchorage, okay.
44 Motion's in order to adjourn.

45
46 MR. GRIEST: So moved.

47
48 CHAIRMAN GOODWIN: Any objection? Hearing none
49 we're adjourned. And thank you very much everybody for coming
50 to the meeting. Thank you, Henry.

1 (Hearing adjourned)

2

3 * * * * *

C E R T I F I C A T E

1
2
3 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
4) ss.
5 STATE OF ALASKA)
6

7 I, Joseph P. Kolasinski, Notary Public in and for the
8 State of Alaska and Owner of Computer Matrix, do hereby
9 certify:
10

11 THAT the foregoing pages numbered 2 through 105 contain
12 a full, true and correct Transcript of NORTHWEST ARCTIC FEDERAL
13 SUBSISTENCE REGIONAL COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING, taken
14 electronically by Salena Hile on the 2nd day of March, 1999,
15 beginning at the hour of 10:00 o'clock a.m. at the Old City
16 Office in Kiana, Alaska;
17

18 THAT the transcript is a true and correct transcript
19 requested to be transcribed and thereafter transcribed by
20 Ms. Hile to the best of her knowledge and ability;
21

22 THAT I am not an employee, attorney, or party
23 interested in any way in this action.
24

25 DATED at Anchorage, Alaska, this 10th day of March,
26 1999.
27
28
29
30

31 _____
32 Joseph P. Kolasinski
33 Notary Public in and for Alaska
My Commission Expires: 4/17/00